

SARDINE RUN



2021

JULY 12TH - 18TH



**DIVERS
READY!**

KARINA@DIVERSREADY.COM

JAMES@DIVERSREADY.COM

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OVERVIEW

**Location:**

Port St John, a charming riverside town in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa, known as 'The Wild Coast.'

Dates:

July 12th - 18th, 2021

Duration:

5 dive days/ 6 nights

Diving:

All day boat diving from a semi-rigid boat for Advanced Certified Divers or above.

Accommodation:

N'Taba Riverside Lodge and Spa, 4-Stars.

Pricing:

\$2800 Per Person (double occupancy.)

Single occupancy (+\$300.)

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THE DIVING



Join us for the scuba diving trip of a lifetime! Diver requirements include Advanced Open Water certification, a minimum of 50 dives, and have dived in the past 3 months prior to the trip. This is not for the feign of heart! This is expedition diving at it's finest.

We will be diving from a rigid inflatable that has been specially adapted for the fast pace and manouverability required to keep up with huge schools of sardines. These boats are designed with the Sardine Run in mind; a camera tray that is positioned down the centre of the boat; additional fuel tanks that enable us to range 160 km and a spacious seating arrangement. There is a maximum of 8 divers per boat, with two crew members.

One can come across Sardine Run action quite unexpectedly. The crew will do their best to manoeuvre the boat and anticipate the marine animal activity. It is essential to be ready to jump into the water at a moment's notice. Be prepared to stay long hours on a semi rigid boat with your wetsuit on. In the meantime, migrating humpback whales, super-pods of common dolphins and flocks of diving gannets provide plenty of topside entertainment.

The dives are best-suited for advanced divers who feel comfortable not only gearing up fast to jump into the middle of a multi-species feeding frenzy, but also spending hours a day bouncing in a semi rigid boat on choppy seas.

Visibility can exceed 60 feet. Because of the strong currents, drift-diving experience is recommended.



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THE MARINE LIFE



Land and sea collide during the Sardine Run, as sharks and birds attack giant schools of sardines off the coast of South Africa, and we want to put you in the middle of the action!

South Africa's annual sardine run is arguably the most spectacular underwater event on the planet. Every year between May and July, vast shoals of sardines migrate up South Africa's Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal provinces, an area known as the Wild Coast because of its remote location and abundance of wildlife above and below the water.



These schools of tiny fish can grow more than 10 miles long, filling the water column from the surface to more than 100 feet down. And it's not just the sheer number of sardines that makes this a once-in-a-lifetime diving experience. As bait fish migrate up the coast, predators come from far and wide for a frenzied feast of epic proportions.

This massive migration is an annual event that attracts seals, penguins, dolphins, sharks, birds and it coincides with the humpback whale migration. This is your chance to star in your very own Blue Planet style documentary!

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ACCOMMODATION



Nestled between towering cliffs and set in amazing tropical gardens on the banks of the Umzimvubu River, N'taba River Lodge is one of the most scenic resorts in the area.

N'taba is a 4-star lodge and offers the finest mixture of Wild Coast hospitality and comfort with heating and bathtubs in most rooms and an on-site restaurant.

Feeling tired after a long dive day? Grab a massage at the in-house spa or soak in the hot tub!

The convenience of this location is that you embark and disembark from the dive boat right on your doorstep, head down river and out to sea.

All meals are included. Breakfast and dinner at the lodge while lunch is on the boat.



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THE ROUTES



Getting There by Air:

The best international hub to arrive into South Africa is Johannesburg. Most major airlines fly here. Delta and South Africa Airlines fly non stop from a few cities in the USA. Make sure you account for the travel time - it takes about 2 days to get here from the USA and 1 day from Europe.

Mthatha Airport is the closest airport to Port Saint John. It's a 1.5 hour direct, domestic flight from Johannesburg then approximately a 2 hour drive from the airport to the lodge. Last flight from Johannesburg is 3:50PM (15h50) each day.

Getting to Port St Johns from Mthatha Airport:

We have included round trip ground transportation for the 2 hour drive in the price of the trip.

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DAILY ITINERARY



Arrive: Monday, July 12, 2021 to N'taba River Lodge in Port St Johns. Check into the hotel for 6 nights. Meet up in the early evening for a full expedition briefing and to meet the crew. (If you arrive on the last flight from Mthatha your briefing will be the next morning.)

Dive: Tuesday - Saturday. Spend full days out at sea looking for Sardine Run action.

- 6:00AM: Breakfast
- 6:45AM: Meet at launch site and load the boat
- 7:00AM - 3:00PM: Ocean Safari. Refreshments and lunch is provided on the boat. Return to lodge at approximately 3PM to relax, download footage and enjoy dinner at the resort.

Farewell BBQ, Open Bar and DJ Party: On our last night, we will host you and the Pro Dive team for a traditional Braai by the river.

Depart: Sunday, July 18. Check out after breakfast and transfer to Mthatha airport for your flight home or on to other adventures!



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MORE ADVENTURES



3 Nights Safari at Kruger National Park

\$1,125/pp/dbl occupancy

...Because you're already in Africa! World famous for the Big 5! Included: 3 nights full board tented accommodations at the boutique Rhino Post Safari Lodge, 6 game drives with optional bush walks, qualified ranger and tracker.

Meals included: brunch, high tea and dinner.

3 Nights at Aliwal Shoal Diving

\$400/per person/dbl occupancy

Can't get enough of the diving?! The Aliwal Shoal is South Africa's premier reef where sightings of ragged-tooth sharks are common and other large pelagic species such as sea turtles, potato bass and numerous game fish abound.

Included: 3 nights accommodation at Scottburgh, breakfast daily, 3 reef dives, tanks & weights, diving permit.



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YOUR HOSTS



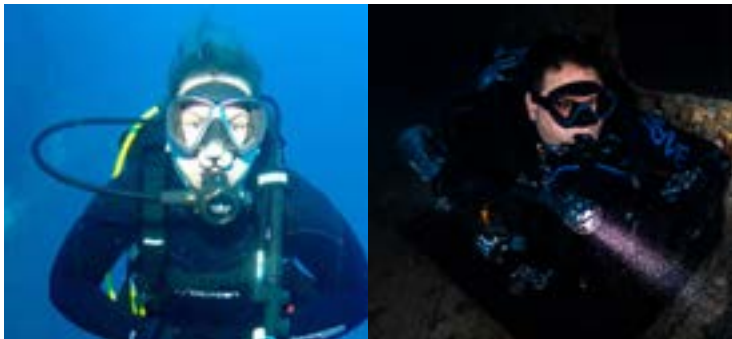
James is a professional technical diving Instructor and experienced expedition leader.

Karina is an avid recreational diver and digital marketing executive.

Together, they are the dynamic duo behind the fastest growing You Tube channel in the Scuba Diving niche.

Based in Miami, FL, James and Karina fill their days diving, making dive plans, creating digital content for dive equipment companies and dreaming up their next dive trips. Basically, anything scuba!

When not diving, they try to be excellent guardians of two cats and a doggo, who sadly won't be joining you in South Africa!



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INCLUSIONS



Included in the trip costs:

- 6 nights accommodation for double occupancy (ADD \$300 for single occupancy). The lodge offers double rooms for couples. Superior twin rooms for solo travelers that want to share a room and family units that have 2 bedrooms with two twins and 1 king.
- Breakfast and dinner daily (the kitchen can accommodate food allergy restrictions)
- Lunch packs on diving days
- 5 days at sea (weather permitting)
- Daily dive boat trips with experienced skipper and guide
- Air fills, tanks & weights
- Farewell Braai, Open bar and DJ Party
- The deluxe Divers Ready! swag bag



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EXCLUSIONS



NOT Included in the trip costs:

- All Flights
- Any required visas for travel to and within South Africa
- Airport transfers
- All Beverages
- Equipment
- Travel and Dive Insurance (We strongly recommend you buy this)
- Gratuities (recommended 15%)
- Additional sightseeing and activities (see above for optional adventures... because when is the next time you will be back to South Africa?)
- Personal expenses



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PAYMENT INFO



Payment

To guarantee your space on the trip, a 30% deposit is due with the registration form. When we receive your deposit, we will send you detailed trip information to prepare for the experience and destination, as well as a sales receipt.

The remainder of your payment (70%) is due by **12/31/2020**. We reserve the right to re-sell any space that is not paid in full by this date.

Payment can be made by check, wire transfer, PayPal, Zelle, Venmo or CashApp. Divers Ready! are not responsible for any transfer fees associated with payments.

Flight, visas, travel fees, and taxes are not included in trip cost.

Flight time and schedule, weather, water temperature, and animal behavior are all subject to change. We recommend all Guests to purchase travel insurance in case of unforeseen circumstances.



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BOOKING POLICIES



Cancellation policy

- Our cancellation policy is a reflection of the cancellation policy of our operators. Once payment has been made in full (12/31/2020) there are no refunds.
- Deposits can be refunded up to 60 days before final payment is due (10/31/20.)
- No refund is made for any unused parts of the itinerary.
- Trip details such as dates, prices, accommodations, are subject to change without prior notice.
- Travel and dive insurance is not included in the trip price, but strongly recommended.

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REGISTRATION



Join Divers Ready! on Tour to the Sardine Run 2021 by completing this form and paying your deposit. One form per person. Email your completed form to: karina@diversready.com. When your deposit is complete, you will receive trip confirmation. Complete trip details will be sent upon final payment.

Personal Information

First name

Last name

Address

City

State

Postcode/ZIP

Preferred phone

Email

Total Trip Cost

\$2800 USD per person, double occupancy room, en suite.

(30% deposit pp due at time of booking: \$840)

\$3100 USD per person, single occupancy room, en suite.

(30% deposit pp due at time of booking: \$930)

Non-refundable final payment due 12/31/2020

Payment method (please check one.)

- Check payment: Miami Technical Diving, LLC
14651 Biscayne Blvd #144
North Miami Beach FL 33181
- Venmo: @James-Blackman-5
- PayPal: PayPal.Me/JBlackman866
- CashApp: \$miamitechnicaldiving
- Zelle: jblackman.diveinstructor@gmail.com
- Wire Transfer: (Please call for bank details.)



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PREFERENCE FORM



In order to make your dive vacation the best it can be, Divers Ready! wants to make sure we personalize your trip as much as possible. Please use the below form (email together with your reservation form) to let us know of any way in which we can make your scuba adventure the best it can be.

Food & Beverage

Do you have any food-based allergies or strong dislikes?

Additional Information

What size T-Shirt do you usually wear?

What size sweatshirt do you wear?

What excites you most about this trip to South Africa?

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