# Red Sea Aggressor II Saturday – Saturday – Hurghada/Hurghada

# **Aggressor Adventures Reservations Office**

Monday-Friday: 8 am - 5 pm EDT Saturday/Sunday: 9 am - 5 pm EDT

Office (USA): 800-348-2628 +1-706-993-2531 <u>redseaaggressorii@aggressor.com</u> www.aggressor.com **Delay and emergency after hours only**: +1-706-664-0111

# Red Sea Aggressor II Local /Emergency/After Hours:

Tel. +2 012 008 20 326

*Updated 08/30/2023* 

**DOCK ADDRESS:** El Foley marina is located on Arabia Road beside the Beirut Hotel. (Same entrance as family beach 2) Most Ubers and taxi drivers know this Marina as Public Beach Number 4 - <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/xyRExG1uDbGSUNes7">https://goo.gl/maps/xyRExG1uDbGSUNes7</a>

**PASSPORT REQUIREMENT:** The yacht requires a current copy of each guest's passport prior to the yacht departure to secure permission for the guest to board from local authorities. A copy should be uploaded through the GIS (online link) a minimum of 7 days prior to the departure. Egyptians are required to upload a copy 14 days prior to departure.

#### **TRANSFERS:**

Airport transfers are not included, and you will need to make your own way to and from the El Foly Marina where the yacht docks. Guests should take a taxi or an Uber which are readily available. Uber is the cheapest option and local taxis should never exceed \$20 from Hurghada Airport to El Foley Marina.

**Transfers For Combining the Red Sea Aggressor II With the Nile Queen River Cruise** For guests traveling on the Red Sea Aggressor II combined with the Nile Queen, transfers can be arranged for you and are scheduled at the below times. There is an additional charge for this, and reservations must be made at least 7 days in advance.

**Nile Queen/Red Sea Aggressor II**: 11 am departure from Aswan to Hurghada to board the Red Sea Aggressor II. **Red Sea Aggressor II/Nile Queen**: 7 am departure from Hurghada to Luxor to board the Nile Queen.

**REQUIRED MEDICAL DIVING FORM:** The Government of Egypt requires that all dive operations obtain a Diving Medical History form before allowing anybody to participate in recreational diving activities (certified and non-certified). The universal RSTC Medical History Questionnaire is acceptable. A positive reason simply means that there is a pre-existing condition that may affect your

safety while diving and you must seek the advice and approval of a medical professional before engaging in diving activities.

PLEASE BRING A COMPLETED COPY OF THIS FORM WITH YOU TO THE YACHT. In some countries, divers are required to have a medical exam every year. If you already have a signed medical for recreational diving (that may use a different form), dated less than 12 months from the date of your upcoming trip, then that will be acceptable as well. If you do not bring a completed copy of this form with you to the yacht, you will be required to complete it onboard. However, be advised that there are no medical facilities available nearby that can provide a medical consultation if needed. We strongly recommend that everyone take a moment to review and complete this form now - before your travels. The link will be emailed to you 60 days prior to departure or, you can print it by going to www.aggressor.com/RSTCMedical.pdf

# FEES & TAXES (USD)

Upon arrival to Egypt, all guests must pay an entry visa of \$25 in cash only. For all included transfers an English-speaking guide will meet and greet you to assist you with your luggage inside the airport and another English-speaking guide will be waiting for guests outside the airport. A multi-entry visa is not available. If you'd like to apply for the visa prior to your trip, visit the following site for more information: <a href="https://visa2egypt.gov.eg/eVisa/FAQ">https://visa2egypt.gov.eg/eVisa/FAQ</a>

- USD \$50 Port fee per person and a USD \$100 Marine Park fee per person to visit Ras Mohamed & Tiran. These fees are paid onboard the yacht and may be paid by Visa, Mastercard, or cash (USD, Euros, English pounds or EGP Egyptian pounds). (traveller's checks are not accepted in Egypt) (use of credit cards will be charged 3%)
- A 14% Value Added Tax (VAT) is required by the Egyptian Federal Law for retail or service added to your billing that includes port fees, marine park fees, dive courses, clothing sales, and nitrox.
- •••Many countries that accept USD cash requires the bills to be in very good condition. Any that have excessive wrinkles, tears, wear marks and are old-style bills are not normally accepted.•••

# **RED SEA AGGRESSOR II – HOME PORT**

The Red Sea Aggressor II operates from the **El Foly Marina**, **Hurghada**. Hurghada is a beautiful and safe touristic city with many restaurants, cafes, bars, and shops. We recommend arriving early and staying at the Hilton Hurghada Plaza or the Hurghada Marriott Beach Resort. Email travel@aggressor.com for details on booking.

# ARRIVAL/DOCKING/DEPARTURE

Airport transfers are not included, and you will need to make your own way to and from the El Foly Marina where the yacht docks. Guests should take a taxi or an Uber which are readily available. Uber is the cheapest option and local taxis should never exceed \$20 from Hurghada Airport to El Foley Marina.

If you are already in Hurghada you may board the yacht Saturday afternoon anytime between 3 pm - 6 pm and through the evening if needed. Please be sure to include your arrival time and/or hotel reservations when completing your online GIS. The yacht will depart the dock early Sunday morning after the Port Authorities have checked all guest's passports. Once port authority boards the yacht, no one can board.

El Foley marina is located on Arabia Road next to Beirut Hotel. Most Uber and taxi drivers know this Marina as Public Beach Number 4 - <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/xyRExG1uDbGSUNes7">https://goo.gl/maps/xyRExG1uDbGSUNes7</a>

# Last Diving Day/Departure

After a full week of diving, the Red Sea Aggressor II returns back to El Foly Marina Friday afternoon between 2 - 4 pm. Friday evening after the sunset cocktail party, guests may go ashore and enjoy one of the many fine restaurants, cafes or pubs in the Hurghada.

Check-out is Saturday morning at 8 am.

Uber and local taxis are readily available from the marina entrance and the yacht crew can assist if needed.

For private transfers please contact Aggressor Travel at <a href="mailto:travel@aggressor.com">travel@aggressor.com</a>

We highly recommend arriving in Hurghada at least one day prior to boarding on Saturday. Sunday morning after the Port Authorities have checked all guests' passports and given clearance, no one can board the boat even if there is a delayed arrival. Arriving early will not only help you get acclimated to the local climate but ensure a timely arrival and that all bags have arrived. No bags or guests can be delivered to the yacht after clearance is given.

**Note:** Guests cannot arrive at the Hurghada Airport more than 3-4 hours prior to their departing flight. Contact Aggressor Travel for more information on a day room.

# **SAMPLE ITINERARY (Saturday to Saturday)**

- Saturday: Arrival in Hurghada, Guest boarding from 3pm 6pm. Guests may board any time after 3pm until the Port Authority clears the yacht for departure.
- Sunday: Port Authority clearance and departure for 1st dive
- Sunday to Friday Afternoon: Eat, Sleep & Dive
- Friday Afternoon: 2 4 pm return to Hurghada
- Friday Evening: Cocktail party 6 pm and dinner ashore at 7 pm. Friday night dinner is the only meal not included in the cruise
- Saturday: Check out 8 am

#### COMMUNICATION

In the event of an emergency, family and friends may contact the Aggressor Reservations Office. After hours they may call the Aggressor emergency cell number.

We recommend guests arrive in Egypt on Friday, one day prior to the start day of the charter. Once guests are onboard and the yacht is given clearance to leave the port by the local authorities, no one can board the yacht after this time or deliver any lost luggage. We recommend you prepare for this if you are scheduled to fly in the day of the charter by packing a mask, fins, swimsuit, change of clothes, medication and toiletries in your carry-on bag. Having these few items with you can make an unexpected loss of luggage more bearable.

# **EXTENDED TRAVEL**

We highly recommend adding an extension to your itinerary prior to boarding the Red Sea Aggressor II. There are several options to choose from. <a href="www.aggressor.com">www.aggressor.com</a> to learn more. Aggressor Detours Travel Dept specializes in booking air, tours, resorts and extended packages for guests. Email <a href="travel@aggressor.com">travel@aggressor.com</a> if you would like information.

# **PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION**

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your period of stay. It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure they have adequate funds to support themselves, a return airline ticket, and the proper visa to travel into each country on his or her itinerary and for re-entry and return back to their

country. Please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure proper passport and visa requirements are met. All visitors to Egypt need an entry Visa to enter Egypt. For many nationalities this can be purchased on arrival in Cairo or Hurghada for \$25 USD in cash only. However, please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure you have the proper documentation. US citizens may go to the US Department of State website at <a href="https://www.travel.state.gov">www.travel.state.gov</a> for more information.

There are special requirements for children leaving the US and many countries have adopted requirements for the protection of children. Since regulations vary by country, contact your consulate or embassy of your country for the requirement. The Reservation Office and Staff cannot assume responsibility for passengers not having correct documentation.

#### **C-CARDS**

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification. The dive master requires proof of certification before the first dive. If you are a repeat guest, you are automatically enrolled in the Travel the World Club and will receive onboard discounts. Your membership is indicated on the rooming list.

#### **GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)**

The Reservations Office and the Red Sea Aggressor II require each guest to complete the Guest Information System (GIS) and Waiver prior to departure and boarding. The GIS allows guests to interactively complete all required paperwork that includes the application/waiver, special requests and travel information. If you haven't received a link to access the GIS, please contact an Aggressor agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS prior to boarding will be denied boarding. Many Aggressor destinations require passenger information in advance for itinerary approval.

#### **INSURANCE**

We strongly recommend each guest purchase a CFAR (cancel for any reason) insurance policy and LiveAboard Rider. To learn more about these policies, visit www.aggressor.com and go to 'Insurance'.

#### **HEALTH**

The Red Sea Aggressor II has a first aid kit onboard, including oxygen and an AED. You may want to bring motion sickness medication if you feel you will need it. We suggest you bring over-the-counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets. Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. We recommend a complete physical before your trip.

The Red Sea Aggressor II and their staff are unable to accept any medication brought onboard for safekeeping including those that require refrigeration. Should a guest have a medication requiring temperature control, they will need to travel with a travel cooling case or small storage cooler with several blue ice packets. The staff will be happy to store and recharge the blue ice but are unable to accept possession or responsibility for the proper care and storage of medication. This should be kept in the stateroom. There is NO smoking allowed anywhere inside the boat or on the dive deck. Smoking is only permitted on the rear of the sun deck.

# **VOLTAGE ABOARD THE YACHT**

The voltage aboard the yacht is 220v and some plug sockets around the boat will accept American plugs however the majority are 2 pin European sockets. You will need an adaptor if your plugs are not the round 2 pin type. Most electrical devices are either 110or 240 volts (look on your cable on the charger that plugs into the wall to verify). See below for an example of the outlet onboard.



#### INTERNET/EMAIL/PHONE

Email is not available, however, there is a satellite phone available for incoming and outgoing calls for a fee (only for emergency use) Internet Access is only possible on the first and the last day of the trip. During the trip there is no internet access.

#### FOOD & BEVERAGES

The menu aboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of Egyptian feasts and local cuisine. If you have any special dietary restrictions, please add this to your reservation through the GIS and speak to the yacht chef once onboard so he/she can adequately prepare to meet your needs. You will wake up to fresh fruits, hot entrees, cereals and juices. Lunches feature hot soups, homemade breads, salads and sandwiches and/or entrees. Dinners are chef prepared and served each evening and include salads, vegetables, seafood, beef or chicken with a fresh homemade dessert. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available due to the remote nature of this location so we highly recommend you bring these items with you. Pork is not available.

The Aggressor's beverage selection includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, coffee, and a limited selection of local beer and wine, which are complimentary. We suggest you purchase your favorite liquor (s) from the duty-free shop at the airport prior to departing to Egypt. Drinking and diving do not mix. Once you consume alcohol, you become a sunbather until the next day.

#### **PACKING**

Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear and swimsuits are a must. A light sweater or jacket is ideal for evenings. Dress is always casual and informal. Additional items you may want to bring are sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat and walking shoes for your time on shore.

#### **ENTERTAINMENT**

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including diving, marine life identification presentations, movies, games and more. If you have a favorite movie, digital slide show or a video to share, we encourage you to bring it along. A small library of books for exchange is maintained onboard as well as marine life identification books for reference.

Whether it's your anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding or you are celebrating a 100<sup>th</sup> dive; please let us know so the staff can celebrate your occasion. Kindly advise the US office prior to traveling so the staff is notified in advance.

#### **DIVING CONDITIONS**

You'll be diving in water that averages  $74^{\circ}$ -82° degrees or  $23^{\circ}$ -28°C. Most guests make as many 4 dives each day, so some sort of protection is needed. A 3 – 5 mm wetsuit in the summer and 7mm in winter should be comfortable and adequate. We suggest divers bring safety items such as a Dive Alert, Safety Sausage, Nautilus Lifeline (Nautilus Lifelines available onboard for rent) and any other safety items you feel necessary. Dive computers are mandatory so please bring yours or complete the dive computer rental form in the GIS.

### **DIVING**

The staff of the Red Sea Aggressor II, with their unique combination of talents, offers the ultimate in service. While onboard you may pick a buddy of your choice. There is ample storage space for your diving equipment. The Red Sea Aggressor II provides 12 litre aluminium tanks, weight belts, and weights and has both K-valves (American type), and DIN (International) valves.

The Northern Red Sea and Straits of Tiran includes some of the most historic wrecks like Thistlegorm, Abu Nuhas, Ras Mohamed National Park and pristine coral reefs as well as abundant marine life. The Straits of Tiran are the narrow sea passages between the Sinai and Arabian peninsulas which separate the Gulf of Aqaba from the Red Sea. These reefs are world famous for their extraordinary diversity of corals.

In between dives, you may snorkel, or just relax with a cold drink and mid-morning/mid afternoon snack. Guests may dive up to 4 dives per day including night diving when possible.

We suggest you pack the following: mask, fins, snorkel, and regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer, and buoyancy compensator. Strongly recommended: Spare mask, a dive watch, dive light, safety sausage with 20 feet of line, whistle, Dive Alert, mirror and/or other safety devices. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape. Please note that the safety sausage (SMB) and reel are mandatory. You can rent the set for \$20 per week or purchase the set on the yacht for \$65 if you do not have your own.

Please see our "Captain's Log" on our website for current diving conditions. The Egyptian Government forbids tourists from carrying drone aircraft into the country. If you do enter Egypt with a drone aircraft, the Egyptian Government warns they will confiscate the drone. DPV's are not allowed in Egypt.

Diving amenities include the offer of unlimited Nitrox at \$100 for 7-night charters.

#### **DIVING SUPERVISION**

You've chosen a liveaboard vacation for the diving freedom that it offers. While in the water, you and your buddy are in charge. Every dive starts with a dive briefing from the yacht staff. However, as a certified diver, you and your buddy are responsible for planning and conducting your own dives within the limitations set forth by the briefing. The staff will be on the dive deck providing surface support for divers. They will also have staff in the water offering support, u/w photography and videography, and critter spotting services as well. On some dive sites a staff member will offer to lead a group and assist them in locating specific points of interest. However, the yacht does not offer direct supervision of dives. If you start out with a group, as long as you and your buddy remain in contact with each other and are ok – you may follow your own dive plan. Dive buddies who are not comfortable following their own dive plan can take one of the many advanced courses available during the charter.

#### RENTAL DIVE EQUIPMENT

Aqua Lung Rental gear is available aboard including regulators, BCDs, Dive Computers, and Night Lights. 5mm Wetsuit rental is available; however, the yacht may not have exact specifications due to limited availability in the region. If any of your dive equipment fails while onboard, the staff will loan you equipment free of charge, compliments of Aqua Lung.

# **CERTIFICATION & SPECIALTY COURSES**

Further your education while onboard an Aggressor yacht! The following courses are offered onboard: SSI Adventurer Course or the PADI equivalent Advanced Open Water Diver Course, and SSI or PADI Enriched Air / Nitrox Courses. Course fees are payable once onboard and the instructor confirms the course. The training agency utilized to provide your course will vary based on your instructor's affiliations. Other specialty courses may be available onboard and will be presented to you after your arrival as part of your initial briefings.

#### PHOTO/VIDEO

The Red Sea Aggressor II offers support for digital photographers, including a PC for downloading photos. The Photo pro teaches the digital U/W Photography specialty course and is available for

coaching or tips to improve your shooting in this environment. The yacht has a charging station and a large camera table available for your camera and video equipment. The Video Professional can capture your diving adventure on board the Red Sea Aggressor II to share with family and friends. The video of the week/ (includes all guests and staff) is \$65 US.

# SHIPS BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS

There is a mini-boutique onboard with assorted t-shirts, and miscellaneous items. The Red Sea Aggressor II accepts cash (USD, Euros, English pounds or EGP - Egyptian pounds), Visa and MasterCard. (no personal or travelers' checks). The yacht will charge you for all your purchases, including the park and port fees, on the last day of your charter when you arrive back to Hurghada. After returning home if you still want boutique items, please visit the Aggressors online boutique at www.aggressor.com

#### **GRATUITIES**

Staff gratuities are not included in the charter. We believe gratuities should be voluntary and based upon the quality of service the staff has provided. When settling your account, the Captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the staff. Payment can be made by cash (USD, Euros, English pounds or EGP - Egyptian pounds), Visa or Master Card credit card. The yacht does not accept personal or traveler's checks as Egyptian banks do not accept them. When traveling abroad, it is a common occurrence for a credit card charge to be declined due to a fraud alert. To help avoid this, it is recommended you contact your credit card company prior to traveling to notify them of the countries you are visiting.

#### **FRIDAY**

The Red Sea Aggressor II returns to Hurghada Friday afternoon between 2-4 pm. A sunset cocktail party will be held then guests may go ashore for dinner at one of the many restaurants at Hurghada. Dinner Friday night is the only meal not provided with the cruise. After the Red Sea Aggressor II returns to port guests may also visit Hurghada for shopping and nightlife.

# CHECKOUT SATURDAY MORNING

Checkout time is at 8:00 am Saturday morning. Please note the Hurghada Airport allows guests to enter the airport 3 hours prior to their departure flight time and no sooner than that. Guests are advised to book flights departing prior to 12:00 Noon. The staff can assist with helping to arrange transportation with a Taxi or Uber.

#### ADVENTURE LOGS

Each week we post the Adventure log of the previous charter on the website and Facebook. Please feel free to visit www.aggressor.com and go to the Adventure log to find out water temperature, visibility, and sightings.