Discover Yap

Micronesia’s Finest Dive Resort

Diving · Kayaking · Cultural Tours · Spa · Fishing
Frontier Diving

Yap's channels and outer reefs offer thrilling pelagic encounters with schooling barracudas, dolphins, eagle rays, grey and blacktip reef sharks. It's possible to see almost anything in Yap! Such a pristine environment can deliver incredible surprises like orcas, whale sharks and huge Pacific sunfish, or Mola Mola.

Yap Divers is the island’s original and largest full-service, dedicated dive facility, offering up to five dives a day, including night dives, on eight fully-equipped dive boats. All dive boats are equipped with permanent sun roofs, radios, oxygen and emergency medical equipment. Delicious home-made snacks, hot and ice cold beverages help divers fuel up between dives.

Warm, crystal clear water and the incredible richness and variety of the ocean life make Yap a great place for snorkeling, too.

**Yap Divers Highlights:**

- Yap’s Most Knowledgeable Dive Guides
- Nitrox fills and courses
- 64, 80 & 100 cu. ft. tanks
- PADI Gold Palm Dive Resort
- SSI Diamond Dive Resort
- Meeting facility for teaching group courses
- Yap’s largest fleet of dive boats
- 110 & 220 volt charging stations available
- New Mares® gear rentals
- Secure personal camera work stations
- Large, personal gear storage units
Everyday, our guests can choose a sunset dive with the most colorful tropical fish, and watch courtship and mating behaviors just three minutes by boat from their Manta Ray Bay Resort room. Yap is one of the few places in the world with year-round mating Mandarin fish.

Mantast

Yap is the world’s only Manta Ray sanctuary, started right here by Bill Acker and the Yap State Government. Over 100 Manta Rays live year round in the waters surrounding Yap. We offer daily Manta Ray awareness classes and interaction dives. Yap offers up-close, natural Manta Ray encounters with the world’s best consistency!

Mandarin fish
Yap’s gorgeous reefs like Cabbage Patch, offer a colorful diversion from the mantas.

Numerous grey and blacktip reef sharks make Vertigo one of the hottest shark dives in the Pacific.

Cleaning stations at Mi’l Channel and Goofnuw Channel are world famous for manta encounters.

Leaf scorpionfish, octopi, whip coral shrimp and delightful nudibranchs hide among lush soft and hard corals along the channel walls.
Skin Diver magazine publisher Paul Tzimoulis visited Yap in 1986 and proclaimed *Mi’l Channel* as one of the best dive sites in the world. But divers soon discovered that Yap offers much more than just mantas. Eagle rays, schooling barracudas, sharks, turtles and cuttlefish are just a few of Yap’s denizens that accompany divers at our countless lagoon and channel sites.

Photographers delight in Yap’s delicate subjects like thorny oysters, clownfish, longnose hawkfish, crocodile fish, and tube worms. *Slow n’ Easy*, a gentle slope with hard coral bommies, is a macro favorite, hosting an abundance of pipefish, garden eels, lionfish and mantis shrimp.

The reefs on the east side of the island (windward side) feature gently sloping terraces with one of the most diverse selections of hard corals in Micronesia. The west side of the island (lee side) is composed of a series of vertical walls starting in 15 feet of water and plunging straight down hundreds of feet. Visibility on the reefs often exceeds 100 feet.

Water temperatures vary from 80° - 86°F; a 1mm wetsuit is advisable.

*Yap Caverns* is a series of hard coral pinnacles and swim-throughs. A school of resident Anthias sweep back and forth, bringing this coral maze to life.
Micronesia’s Finest Dive Resort

Manta Ray Bay Resort offers 35 luxury rooms featuring unique marine themes, many with private balconies and waterfront views. All are fully air-conditioned and have a ceiling fan, color TV, DVD player, internet connections, International Direct Dialing telephone, refrigerator (upon request) and private bathroom.

Delicious and affordable meals and cocktails are served aboard our 18th-century South Seas sailing schooner, the S/V Mnuw, permanently docked at the hotel. For another taste of the islands, you can sample a variety of beers from our own on-site micro-brewery, the Stone Money Brewing Company.

The Resort Built By Divers, For Divers

Yap Divers is equipped with three fresh water rinse tanks for dive gear and two dedicated fresh water camera rinse tanks. Our rinse tanks are even lighted at night so that you won’t misplace any gear! Adjacent to the rinse tanks is a fresh water shower to rinse the salt off of your skin and a drying area to hang your gear.

We like our guests to be comfortable, so in addition to being fast and safe, our boats are made to be comfortable. Smooth riding even in choppy seas, with sun protection and amply stocked with supplies like cold, fresh drinking water, hot tea and snacks. Our chefs will even make sure a delicious lunch is waiting for you on the boat between your dives, upon your request.

Our tanks and rental gear are up to the same high standards. We even have our own hydrostatic testing machine to ensure the safety of each and every tank.

Most of the diving here is ideal for Nitrox. If you would like to try Nitrox but lack Nitrox certification, we offer both SSI and PADI courses.
Bill Acker, founder of the Manta Ray Bay Resort and Yap Divers, is proud to share his love of Yap and diving with guests from all over the world. A resident of Yap for over 30 years, Bill is eminently qualified to make your Micronesian dive experience one that you’ll never forget.

He can be found at the hotel seven days a week, ready to help with suggestions on diving, photography, fishing or just relaxing on the back deck. As a family owned and operated dive resort, you can be sure that your satisfaction is taken very seriously and that the “boss” is around to help you in the event assistance is required.

In addition to excellent diving, we offer guided snorkeling tours designed to showcase the clear water, vibrant colors and myriad tropical fish of Yap. Our thrilling manta and shark encounters are enjoyed by snorkelers, too!

The Taro Leaf Spa was opened in February 2009 and takes the best of everything that is Yapese to bring you an experience that will relax, energize, invigorate, revitalize and harmonize you. The decor of the spa is based on island themes and all of our products use locally sourced plants.

You will be given your own Taro Leaf robe and shorts to change into in our comfortable change area. Each guest will have their own private locker to keep valuables secure.

We have a wide range of treatments available, so there is really something to meet everyone’s needs, whether you have tired muscles from a day’s diving or you just want to pamper yourself for a few hours.

**Taro Leaf Spa Highlights:**

- The only spa to have traditionally family-made massage oil with local plant extracts
- Stone bath (Almeria) hewn from one piece of rock, thus, retaining high mineral content of the bath, the only one of its kind in the country
- Founded by Patricia Acker who trained the staff in traditional as well as Asian massage techniques
Yap, a Cultural Gem

When diving is over, MRBR offers many other activities to help our guests experience all that the island has to offer, including kayaking, snorkeling, deep sea fishing and cultural land tours.

Attractions like handmade seaside men’s houses, cultural village tours, stone money banks, native dance performances, mangrove forests and marine life highlight any visit to this island paradise in the Pacific. And unlike other states in Micronesia, villagers here have not fully adopted a Western lifestyle.

**Yap Island Highlights:**
- A member of the Federated States of Micronesia
- English is the official language and U.S. Dollar is the official currency
- No crime and no crowds
- Politically stable
- Airline service provided by United Airlines, a member of the Star Alliance
- Average year-round temperatures are in mid-80’s Fahrenheit (upper 20’s Celsius)
- Average surface water temperature is 82°F (28°C)
- Time Zone: GMT + 10 hours
- No visas required
- No dive tax or marine park fees

Bill Acker and the Yap State Government’s Manta Ray Sanctuary protects big animals as well as their habitat, which fosters a thriving shark population including Blacktip, Whitetip, Grey Reef, Nurse, Lemon, Oceanic Silvertip, Tiger, Leopard, Scalloped Hammerhead and Silky sharks. Annual shark education and science events are offered, as well as daily shark behavior dives.
Packages
We offer 3, 4, 7, 10 and 14 night Hotel/Dive packages that include accommodations, internet service, breakfast, diving, taxes and transfers. Meal packages that include lunch and dinner aboard the S/V Mnuyw schooner can also be added, as can our “SuperSize Me Package,” which includes a 3rd dive, lunch and unlimited NITROX. Inquire about upgrades to our beautifully renovated Ocean View guest rooms.

Getting to Yap
United Airlines offers regular flights to Yap. Guests from the Americas, Caribbean, Japan and Australia usually travel to Yap via Guam. Guests from Europe, Scandinavia, and Western Asia connect in Manila or Tokyo. We strongly recommend everyone traveling to Yap to purchase travel insurance.

For reservations, contact your local agent, dive center or Manta Ray Bay Resort
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