

Sea Fox Diving Vessel Distinctive Specialty

Student Handbook

Student Prerequisites: PADI Open Water Diver or qualifying prerequisite
Minimum Age: 15 years

The goals for the Sea Fox Diving Vessel training are:

- A. Development of Knowledge regarding boat terminology, safety procedures and equipment specific to the Sea Fox diving vessel.
- B. Development of Knowledge regarding piloting procedures for the Sea Fox diving vessel, including use of boat specific equipment.
- C. Practical experience piloting the vessel and diving from the vessel.

Knowledge Development Teaching Outline

Topic One: Safety procedures

Learning Objectives:

By the end of knowledge development, the student diver will be able to explain:
Boat terminology, boat safety, and emergency equipment specific to the Sea Fox

- What are a boat's *bow*, *stern*, *starboard side* and *port side*?

- Which is the *windward* side and which is the *leeward* side of a boat?

- What do the following terms refer to on the boat: *wheel house, head, galley, rail, cylinder racks, and swim step?*

- What are four safety considerations while on the Sea Fox?

- What eleven pieces of safety equipment do you find on the Sea Fox boat and where are they located?

- How do you operate the engine fire safety system?

- How do you monitor the engine performance with Detroit Diesel readouts?

- What is a bilge pump and how do you operate it?

- **What is a high water alarm and how does it work on the Sea Fox?**

- **How do you operate the marine radio on board the boat according to local regulations and procedures, and what is consider as an emergency?**

- **What line system is used on board the Sea Fox when diving from a mooring and how is it used?**

- **What should a diver consider while boarding the boat using the Christmas tree ladder?**

- **What safety considerations are there when a dive boat leaves and returns to the dock?**

Topic Two: Boat navigation and Piloting

Learning Objectives

By the end of knowledge development, the student diver will be able to explain:

Basic etiquettes of piloting on the open ocean, navigational aids for locating or relocating a dive site, boat piloting, how to tie up and to release from a mooring, docking, and dive site approach

- **What does the term piloting means?**

- **What is a GPS and some of its functions?**

- **Where is the steering and gear controls of the Sea fox located, how do you identify them, and what are their proper usage?**

- **How do you navigate from outside the channel to the first dive site then to dive site two, properly using the GPS?**

- **How do you approach a mooring/dock?**

- **What are four considerations when selecting a dive site?**

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- **How do you release from a mooring?**

- **What should a diver in the water know about the captains piloting considerations when picking up drift divers?**

Open Water Dives

Dive One

Briefing

1. **Attend the vessel Sea Fox boat captains safety briefing**
2. Evaluation of conditions
3. Entry technique
4. Exit technique
5. Bottom composition and topography around site
6. Maximum depth
7. Ending tank pressure – when to terminate the dive
8. Interesting and helpful facts about the dive site
9. **Dive sequence**
 - a. **Suiting up**
 - b. **Pre-dive safety check**
 - c. **Pre-dive procedures**
 - d. **Safely descent using the lines system specific to Sea Fox**
 - e. **Dive for fun and pleasure**
 - f. **Ascent and exit technique by proper use of the Sea Fox Christmas tree style exit ladder**
10. Post-dive procedures

Dive Two

Briefing

1. Evaluation of conditions
2. Entry technique
3. Exit technique
4. Bottom composition and topography around site
5. Maximum depth
6. Ending tank pressure – when to terminate the dive
7. Interesting and helpful facts about the dive site
8. **Dive sequence**
 - a. **Suiting up**
 - b. **Pre-dive safety check**
 - c. **Pre-dive procedures**
 - d. **Safely descent**
 - e. **Dive for fun and pleasure**
(optional) if conducting a drift dive, conduct a safety stop simultaneously with the dive leader and break the surface with 15seconds of their ascent to the surface
 - f. **Ascent and exit technique by proper use of the Sea Fox Christmas tree style exit ladder**
9. Post-dive procedures