

Palancar Reef, Cozumel



The Diving In Cozumel's Palancar Reef Is Very High Quality

Cozumel is a world class diving destination attracting enthusiasts from all over the world. The underwater landscape at Cozumel is a cornucopia of life, representing the very best the Mesoamerican reef has to offer.

Palancar Reef is one of Cozumel's more popular areas for scuba diving. It's an iconic reef and a large dive site, over 3.5 miles long. It's the second largest coral system in the world, surpassed only by the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. Palancar Reef is an underwater eden.

Palancar is a very popular dive site with tour operators because it has many sections with calm water and gentle drifts that are perfect for divers of all experience levels. Easy to dive sections are very satisfying, with large coral clusters covered with diverse and colourful corals, teeming with fish, and with deep crevices that house creatures hiding inside. Palancar also offers more challenging sections for advanced

divers that are deeper, with stronger currents and overhead environments.

Palancar Gardens is a good section of the reef for beginners. It's shallow and with a moderate current. It offers a nice wall dive with some swim throughs. Features here include a towering rock spires and cliffs covered with Gorgonians and Sponges.

Further South from Palancar Garden is Palancar Horseshoe. This is a very good spot if you like swim throughs. It gets its name from its horseshoe shape. There are stunning tunnels throughout this reef that allow you explore it from the inside out. The tall heads of corals here create an effect of a city skyline, like the lost city of Atlantis.

Further South from Palancar Horseshoe is Palancar Caves. This area has a very special landscape with towering coral formations that form a maze of gullies, caves and canyons. It's a large site requiring multiple visits to see all the caves and canyons. It doesn't have quite as many fish as other parts of Palancar, but the coral and sponges are spectacular and the swim throughs are a lot of fun. It's an intermediate level dive because although mostly shallow, it has some deeper sections.