



# Scuba Cat Diving



Disabled Divers  
International

## About Phuket

Phuket; formerly known as Tha-Laang or Talang is one of the southern provinces (changwat) of Thailand. Neighboring provinces are (from north clockwise) Phang Nga and Krabi, but as Phuket is an island there are no land boundaries. The island is served by Phuket International Airport, located in the north of the island. The ph of "Phuket" is an aspirated hard "p", not a soft "f", so the name is pronounced (roughly) "Poo-get". The name Phuket is apparently derived from the word Bukit in Malay that means mountain or hill, as this is what the island appears like from a distance.

Before that its old name was Ta-lang (in Thai): The word is derived from the old Malay "Telong" which means "Cape", which is still in used for one of the main districts in the Phuket area.

## Geography



Phuket is the biggest island in Thailand, located in the Andaman Sea, in southern Thailand. The island is mostly mountainous with a mountain range in the west of the island from the north to the south. The mountains of Phuket form the southern end of the Phuket mountain range, which ranges for 440 km from the Kra Isthmus. 70 % of the island is covered with forest. Phuket has several sandy beaches.

One of the most popular tourist areas on Phuket is **Patong Beach** on the central western coast, perhaps owing to the easy access to its wide and long beach. Most of Phuket's nightlife and its cheap shopping are located in Patong, and the area has become increasingly developed. Patong means, "the forest filled with banana leaves" in Thai

Other popular beaches are located south of Patong. In a counterclockwise direction these include **Karon Beach, Kata Beach, Kata Noi Beach** and around the southern tip of the island, **Nai Han Beach**. These areas are generally much less developed than Patong, and sought out by individuals, families and other groups with a preference for more relaxed and less crowded environment than Patong.

## About Scuba Cat Diving

Scuba Cat Diving offers the most complete career packages in Thailand. We give the opportunity to our candidates to have a wide view of the dive industry. Diving is everywhere.

Mike Stark the founder started diving in 1974 in the cold water of Canada and decided to come to Thailand in the early 90's. Since beginning operations in 1992 Scuba Cat Diving has become Phuket Thailand's most complete. Now, Scuba Cat Diving is known worldwide for training quality and customer services and is a 5 Star CDC Centre awarded in 2007.



Sarah Kench, formerly a Senior Manager with HSBC in England, decided to change her life, came to Thailand in 1994 after spending several years diving in the cold water of England, and leading dive holidays to the Red Sea, Caribbean Islands, Dominican republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Indonesia and the Philippines, Upon starting work in the company she aspired to one day own Scuba Cat and this became a reality in 2007.

Scuba Cat Diving operates a liveaboard in the Similans, Surin Islands, and tours the South Andaman to offer all the best dive sites in the area. One daytrip boat to the best dive sites around Phuket and a half day trip boat to offer more flexibility to our customers.

Technical diving is also taught at Scuba Cat Diving, DSAT Tec Rec, Trimix, and rebreather courses

Scuba Cat Diving is a PADI 5 Star CDC Instructor Development Center, we teach all the PADI Courses from Discover Scuba Diving to Instructor levels. PADI is the largest diving organization in the world. A PADI 5 Star CDC is the highest rating with PADI.



Scuba Cat Diving is also is **DDI** Instructor Development Center. **Disabled Divers International** (DDI) is a diving association, which has focused upon providing the means for those with physical disabilities who wish to become scuba divers.

To enable individuals with physical disabilities to participate in underwater activities requires competent, instructors, underwater guides, capable dive buddies, as well as training programs, standards, guidelines, materials, and member support. **DDI** provides these.

The **DDI** also conducts update seminars, symposiums and attend Dive conventions. Members are kept informed of the latest information via **DDI** Newsletters.

## Training Facilities

If you are planning on learning to dive proper, convenient training facilities will go a long way in helping ensure you have a relaxed, enjoyable time while making the best use of your holiday time.

Scuba Cat Diving has a three story classroom center and the use of a purpose built training pool. One of the classrooms is dedicated to Professional levels. All the classrooms have air-conditioning, DVD players, TV's and wireless for your laptop computer.



Dive boats are an essential and extremely important element of your ocean experience and a dive center operating its own vessels is better able to ensure your comfort, safety and enjoyment. Boat ownership is truly a mark of a superior, professional operation.

Scuba Cat Diving ownership has been involved in boating services in Phuket since 1990 and presently own and operate three dive vessels.



**1. MV Scuba Adventure – Liveaboard**

**2. V Scuba Fun – Daytrip boat**



**3. M/V Scuba Sport – Half day/Daytrip**

## DDI Courses

### *Try Scuba Diving*

The try scuba diving program is designed to allow individuals the experience of being under water while able to breathe. The primary goal of the program is to give a safe, positive and enjoyable experience

Course prerequisite:

- Minimum age by course start is 12 years.
- You must also submit a medical approval for diving.



### *Pool Diver Programme*

Confined Water training is a certification level for use in pool only. This certification is for those who enjoy the exercise and fun while scuba diving but have no desire to explore the outdoor water.

### *Scuba Diver*

The **DDI** Sport Diver course provides candidates with the necessary knowledge and skills required to dive safely in an open water environment under direct supervision of a Dive Leader or scuba instructor to a maximum depth of 12 meters.

Course prerequisite:

- Minimum age by course start is 12 years.
- You must also submit a medical approval for diving

### *Open Water Diver*



The Open Water Diver course provides the elementary knowledge and skills required to safely dive in an open-water environment. The course is performance based. This means that you must show competence in both academic and water-skills requirements before becoming certified. Upon completion of the course you receive the Open Water Diver certification based upon your level of self-dependence and your ability to assist

your fellow divers.

Course prerequisite:

- Minimum age by course start is 12 years.

- You must also submit a medical approval for diving.

### *Advanced Open Water Diver Course*

During the Advanced Open Water Diver Course is an Open Water Diver will learn more diving skills. The course focuses on open water dives and only short sessions of academics. A minimum of 5 dives is required before certification. There are no compulsory dives. Together with your Instructor you can make your own program.



#### **Course prerequisite:**

- Minimum age by course start is 12 years
- Be certified as Open Water Diver
- You must also submit a medical approval for diving

### *Assistant Diver Course*



The Assistant Diver program teaches a recreational diver to function as a disabled diver's assistant, fulfilling the DDI requirements for disabled divers that must have a DDI Assistant Diver as one of their diving partners.

In principle the Assistant Diver, must be able to assist the disabled diver, with the same physical ability as a Divemaster.

The Assistant Diver will however not have the knowledge or skill level expected of a Divemaster.

#### **Course prerequisites:**

- Minimum age by course start: 18 years
- Minimum diving experience: 30 logged dives
- Submit proof of training in CPR and First Aid within the past 24 months at certification date
- Submit proof of Rescue level diver certification from any training organization
- Standard diving program requirements apply.

*Nitrox 36*

# EANx

## Enriched Air With DDI

That what is of real importance about NITROX, is being educated, in order to scuba dive safely at all times. The NITROX 36 program is intended to give this extra safety, as disabled people have a higher risk on a decompression illness due to their handicap. This risk is being reduced when scuba diving with NITROX and for this reason any diver should be able to use this during their first open water dive.

The course takes some four hours, after which a student needs a minimum of three dives to being able to apply for certification. The three dives can be combined with other training dives.

### *DDI Pro- Training*

The **DDI** Pro-Training is a totally integrated program, which consists of three days of classroom, pool and open water training.

- You will learn how to relate to some of the psychological aspects of someone who is physically disabled.

- You will learn about a variety of physical disabilities and how they relate to scuba diving.

Through simulations and workshops in the pool and open water you learn how to overcome some of the problems you may encounter when training physically disabled divers.

- You will learn how to become more aware of your students, their need, their attitudes, etc. Thinking steps ahead is very important here! (You can get in the water, how did you plan to get out?)

- You will learn how to develop a foresight in logistic awareness and considerations.



### *Surface Assistant*

The 3S program is especially designed for people that want to be involved with disabled scuba diving, except diving itself. The Surface Assistant can assist the diver with the preparations prior to the dive, to prepare a dive plan, helping to building up the dive set, etc... All tasks and actions along the 'water line' except scuba diving itself. Thus, also assisting after the dive.



This course is ideal for family and friends that want to help and be part of the dive team, but do not want to get 'wet'. It also gives the disabled diver the feeling to being less dependent, in particular someone who is very relying on help. Besides that, it is fun to share experiences (to a certain extend) and to be a part of the team.

The course takes about six hours. It's highly recommended that the Surface Assistant follow an Oxygen Provider and First Aid and CPR course.





## Contact info

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