



## **Frontier Scuba**

Sabang, Puerto Galera,  
Oriental Mindoro, Philippines

Here are some answers to frequently asked questions regarding getting to Puerto Galera, staying in Manila, airport taxis, online e-Learning, payments and insurance.

- A) Transfers – five different options
  1. Direct private transfer [Private van and boat]
  2. Semi-private – private van + public ferry
  3. Airport Taxi into Manila
  4. Sikat tourist service [tourist bus + public ferry]
  5. Public buses and ferries
- B) Manila hotels
- X) Online e-Learning
- Δ) Payment
- E) Diving and travel insurance

### **A) Transfers**

Puerto Galera and Sabang Beach is located three hours south of Manila by land and sea. You have five choices of getting here. Each has it's benefits, although generally the more you pay the faster and easier you'll get here.

1. Direct private transfer - straight from the airport. Peso 6300 for a private van and boat for a group of up to seven people . Available 24 hours a day, sea conditions permitting [add P500 for night transfer]
2. Semi-private - if your flight arrives before 1230 you can book a private van and then catch the last public ferry from Batangas City Pier direct to Sabang. The van is Peso 3300 one way, public ferry about Peso 260 per person.
3. Public bus and ferry - cheap - Peso 175 for bus + Peso 310 for ferry [airport taxi to bus station under Peso 400]. However, slow and not recommended with large bags
4. Overnight in Manila and then catch the Sikat tourist service the next day. Manila

Frontier Scuba is a trading name of Frontier Resort and Diver's Corporation  
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hotel about P2300 a night, airport taxi into town P350 and Sikat service about Peso 700, or private van transfer

### **1) Instructions for direct private transfers**

Manila airport has three terminals. The pick up point depends on the terminal. Before Departure double check the arrival terminal in Manila online. Type in your flight number into google and you will see the arrival terminal in Manila in the search results. Please note

If you can't see the driver at the airport please call our head driver on +63 (0) 928 506 7579 or Rick at +63 (0) 917 540 8410

**Terminal 2** - Philippine Airlines Only

**Terminal 3** - Cebu Pacific Air / **PAL Express** , **Singapore Airlines**, **Delta**, **Emirates**, **Cathay Pacific** and **KLM** [*please double check flight status on google to get up to date terminal information*]

**Terminal 4** – Tiger Airways and some other low cost carriers

**Terminal 1** - All Other Airlines

#### **Terminal 2** - Philippine Airlines Only

After collecting your bags exit the terminal. Outside the terminal turn right and walk past the Coffee shop. Just beyond this point are barriers. Our driver will be here and will have a signboard with your name and 'Frontier Scuba'. Identify yourself and the driver will help you with your bags.

**Terminal 3** Cebu Pacific , PAL Express [Plus Singapore, Delta, Emirates, Cathay Pacific & KLM starting in August (?) 2014]

Exit the baggage hall turning left and you will see the driver waiting behind the glass barriers with a name board. Occasionally the driver has to wait outside. Exit the terminal. You'll see signs of the waiting bays. Our driver will wait next to 'Bay 4'

**Terminal 4** Tiger airways and some other low cost carriers.

Exit the baggage hall and building. Look across the service road. The driver will be waiting on the other side of the service road with a guest name board

## **Terminal 1 All Other Airlines**

Collect your bags and exit the terminal. You must then cross the service road and take the stairs down to the lower service road. At the bottom of the road you will see signs 'DEF, GHI 2' etc. Wait under the sign 'DEF'. On the other side of the lower service road you will see barriers with people waiting for friends. Our drivers will be here opposite 'F' with a sign-board with your name and 'Frontier Scuba'. Identify yourself and the driver will help you with your bags.

The direct private transfer will take you to Berberabe beach, which takes about 2 hours. From there a large outrigger boat will take you to the resort. Two taxes are not included in the transfer fee - these are total Peso 80 per person, On boarding there is a Peso 30 per person fee for using the pier. On arrival you will pay a government environmental tax of Peso 50 per person [EUF] which is not included in the transfer fee.

Payment for the van and boat is at the dive center. Please feel free to tip the boatmen for carrying heavy bags.

## **2) Semi private – private van and public ferry**

Use the instructions above for meeting the driver. Your flight must land before 1230 to enable you enough time to clear immigration, collect your bags and have the van take you the two hours south to Batangas Pier. The last ferry to Sabang is at 1630. The private Van is Peso 3300 one way. The van will take you to Batangas Pier. Ask the driver to show you the counter for ferries to **SABANG beach** [not Puerto Galera town or white beach]

The ferry takes about 1:15 and costs Peso 230 for the ticket. You then need to buy the terminal fee ticket at another counter [P30 each]. If you or the driver can SMS which ferry you are taking we can meet you at the other end, or you can walk 200m west along the beach direct to Frontier Scuba. On arrival in Sabang you must pay a Environmental tax [EUF]of Peso 50 per person.

## **3) The Sikat tourist service**

The Sikat is a tourist bus and public ferry combination that is comfortable and safe. As you will need to overnight in Manila this does mean that you may lose half a day on the beach through traveling. The Sikat leaves the lobby of the CITY STATE TOWER HOTEL, Mabini Street, Ermita at 0830 each day. Be there at 0700 to buy your ticket. The bus

takes about two hours to reach Batangas pier where you will catch the 1100 ferry direct to Sabang. The ferry arrives in Sabang at about 1245. Usually we meet people at the pier. If we miss you, Frontier Scuba is located about 250m to the right, along the beach

The Sikat ticket is Peso 700. At Batangas terminal you will be asked to go to a counter to pay Peso 30 for the terminal ticket. On arrival in Sabang you will pay a government environmental tax of Peso 50 per person [EUF]

#### **4) Airport taxi into Manila**

From the airport take a YELLOW METERED TAXI [not white taxi or prepaid/coupon taxi – hertz/avis]. Currently fares are about peso 300 to 450 to central Manila and travel time is between 20 minutes and 35 minutes depending on traffic. Drivers know all the major hotels. A tip of 10~15% is customary but not required

#### **5) Public buses and ferries**

The buses all leave from stations near the corner of Taft Avenue and Buendia avenue. Ask a taxi to take you to the Jac Liner Bus terminal which is about 20 meters from the junction on the North west side. Here you need to take a blue CERES bus to Batangas Pier. Ask for the non-stop option along the star tollway. Batangas Pier and 'Derecho' will be marked in the the window of the bus. It is best not to store large bags under the bus - cheaper and safer just to purchase an extra seat for the bag. Tickets are about Peso 170. Buses start at about 0430 and run throughout the day and night. The bus leaves only when full, which can take up to 30 minutes and usually takes two hours depending on traffic. In Batangas it will make a brief stop at the 'Grand Terminal'. Stay on the bus. The last stop is about 10 minutes later at Batangas Pier. Use the instructions from above for catching a public ferry to Sabang.

First ferry at 0745, then at 0915, 1100 and throughout the day until the last ferry to Sabang Beach at 1630

### **B) Manila hotels**

The private vans can make a pick up from any hotel in Manila. We just need your hotel name, address and a contact number. If you need a hotel we can recommend Cherry Blossoms hotel, or it's sister hotel the City State Tower Hotel. Both have rooms from between Peso 1750 to Peso 2350 per room per night. We can book the room for you and you can pay on check-in.

Cherry Blossoms Hotel ° J.Bocobo Extension. Ermita.  
City State Tower Hotel. Mabini Street, Ermita.

Near to the CST hotel is Robinson's Mall. Great for shopping, restaurants, cinemas, supermarkets and Starbucks. Walk south 70m and take the first left. Walk 100m and the mall is in front of you to the right. Cherry Blossoms hotel is directly next to the Mall

### **C) Online e-Learning with SDI**

If you have signed up for SDI e-Learning we will have sent you a code to access the online site. Cut and paste the code into the sign up now box on the right side of <https://www.tdisdi.com/wpsite/elearning/>

Once on-line you can set up a user account with name and password and upload a photo. This means that you can access the study whenever you want and also means that when the course is completed that your details are already with SDI.

### **D) Payment**

In the Philippines cash is king. You can pay in Manila easily with credit card at malls and hotels. At the dive center we prefer cash payment for boat transfers, diving and diving courses in pesos or any major currency

The resorts accept credit cards for room payments, in the provinces and Puerto Galera, expect to have about 4 to 7 % added to bills if paying with Mastercard and Visa. Diner's Club and American Express are usually not accepted.

At Frontier Scuba we accept all major currencies so it is best to bring cash and carry the credit card only as back-up. If you prefer to pay in advance we can send bank details for telegraphic transfers. Please accept all transfer charges at your end. We can also take PayPal payments, but also at +4%

Paypal - Please send payments to [frontierscuba@gmail.com](mailto:frontierscuba@gmail.com)

If you don't have a Paypal account it is quick and secure to set one up using a credit card.

When making payments please

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1. Chose the 'Personal Payment' tab
2. Check the 'Payment owed' check box
3. You can edit the message box so that the confirmation email we receive from Paypal includes what the deposit is for

## **E) Diving and Travel insurance**

Diving is a very safe sport. However, we highly recommend that you have dedicated dive insurance. Dive insurance covers evacuation and for diving related illness, both of which can be very expensive to treat. It is best to have Divers Alert Network [DAN] or Dive Assure insurance, as they both have direct contact with recompression facilities and so payment is immediate.

Standard travel insurance that includes diving is often very slow to approve treatment. Insurance starts with weekly [\$39] and monthly premiums, rising to about \$125 for one year world-wide coverage.

Email me us if you would like to add full dive insurance to your package. We also recommend that you have standard travel insurance to cover for missed flights, lost bags and non-diving related illness. World Nomads offers great travel insurance packages

**Let us know if you have any questions. The real fun will start when you come here for the diving !**