



## FWSA ROATAN SCUBA DIVE TRIP



**October 9 – 16, 2021**

### Anthony's Key Resort

#### Basic Cost excluding air travel:

7 Day (20 boat dives) Dive Package *	\$ 1,534 pp. Dbl. Occupancy
7 Day (12 boat snorkels) Snorkel Package **	\$ 1,419 pp. Dbl. Occupancy
Non-Dive Package	\$ 1,304 pp. Dbl. Occupancy
Single Supplement (Key Deluxe Room)	\$ 257 additional

#### Price Includes:

- 7 nights at Anthony's Key Resort – based on 2 per room in a Key Deluxe Room
- 3 meals daily
- Use of paddle boards, kayaks, and snorkeling
- Day excursion to Maya Key and admission to Roatan Museum
- Airport transfers from Roatan Airport to resort
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Resort taxes (gratuities not included)

#### \* In Addition, the Dive Package includes:

- 6 days of 3 tank boat dives and 2 single tank night dives
- Buoyancy control workshop
- Shore diving during shop hours

#### \*\* In Addition, the Snorkel Package includes:

- 2 snorkels daily by boat with guide and 1 night boat snorkel
- Underwater fish ID card
- Slide show and 1 Dolphin Encounter

#### Room Upgrades Not Available:

#### Payment Schedule – Land:

Initial deposit	Immediately	\$ 500 per person
2 <sup>nd</sup> payment	July 1, 2021	\$ 500 per person
Final payment	August 31, 2021	\$ balance

#### Cancellation Penalties:

Prior to August 7, 2021	\$ 0 per person
August 8, 2021 – August 22, 2021	\$ 225 per person
August 23, 2021 – September 6, 2021	\$ 330 – \$385 per person
September 7, 2021 – departure date	no refunds

Travel on this FWSA trip to Roatan requires a valid Passport. Your Passport must be valid until April 16, 2022 (six months after your return). It is your responsibility to ensure your required travel documents are in order and with you.

## DIVE and TRAVEL INSURANCE

FWSA highly recommends that you purchase travel insurance. Roatan Charters offers trip insurance on their website at <https://www.travelsafe.com/index.php?ref=ROAFL02>  
Additional travel insurance vendors can be found on FWSA website at <http://www.fwsa.org/Travel/insurance.html> . In addition, all scuba divers will be required to have diving accident insurance through Divers Alert Network (DAN), the premier dive insurance. You can get their insurance info at <http://www.diversalertnetwork.org/>

# ABOUT ROATAN

## Location/Geography

Honduras's largest island is 37 miles long by 3 miles wide and is completely surrounded by a large reef system, part of the Mesoamerican reef which has a large marine biodiversity.

## Climate

The average temperature in Roatan year-round is 80° F with the trade winds providing a gentle breeze. The relative humidity averages 72%.

## Water Temperature

Averaging between 78-81°F degrees.

## Currency

The Honduran Lempira, exchanged at the daily rate for U.S. Dollars. On the island, US Dollars are used as much as the local currency and most places have their prices in US dollars. It is best not to bring bills over \$20 as larger bills may not be accepted. Credit cards widely accepted.

## Electricity

110-volt U.S. style plugs / 60 cycle

## Documents

You need a passport that is valid for 6 months after your arrival. You will receive a 90-day tourist Visa when you arrive. You should check to see if there are any special requirements for citizens of your country but currently this is all that is required for USA, Canada, UK, and European Union. Your passport must be valid until April 16, 2022.

## Airport Departure Fees

There is an airport departure tax of US \$45.00/person for international flights and a domestic departure tax of L42.00/person or equivalent in US currency. Although most International carriers included it in your air ticket. For local flights, it must be paid in the airport after check-in Please note these fees must be paid in cash, either US Dollars or Lempiras.

## Time Zone

USA Central Standard Time. Daylight savings time is not observed.

## Language

Officially Spanish, but English is spoken commonly.

## U.S. Embassy

The US Embassy is located on the mainland in Tegucigalpa.

Avenida La Paz  
Tegucigalpa M.D.C.  
Honduras

Phone: (504) 2236-9320

FAX: (504) 2236-9037

Roatán is one of the most popular places in Honduras for those looking for that perfect tropical vacation. There are direct [flights to Roatán](#) from Italy, Canada, and the United States, and those on holiday from the latter are happy to find that the primary language spoken is English. The island of [Roatan](#) is laden with white sandy beaches, and surrounded by coral reefs, which makes it a [diving](#) and snorkeling haven.

[Roatan](#) is the largest of the [Bay Islands](#). It is a long, narrow, hilly island, almost 60 km long (about 37 miles) and only 5 km wide (3 miles) at its widest spot. It's rolling hills and mountains, with a maximum altitude above sea level of approximately 900 feet, makes every piece of property virtually a unique ocean view lot. The island is completely surrounded by a large reef system, part of the Mesoamerican reef which boasts the largest marine biodiversity in the world and is part of the second longest barrier reef in the World, extending itself from the Bay Islands in Honduras on the south end to the Mexican islands of Contoy, Isla Mujeres and Cozumel to the North.

The coastline of Roatan has outstanding white sand beaches, iron shore bluffs and mangrove forests surrounding the island. The combination is almost perfect and provides the best of all three worlds, tropical beaches, such as the one in West Bay is considered the best beach in Central America and one of the best in the world; The iron shore bluffs offer some of the best ocean front views on the island, and the mangrove swamps offer an insight to the tropical wetlands of the Caribbean and Central America.

In addition, the original vegetation of the island can still be seen on the eastern end of the island, here you will find the presence of the unique Caribbean Pine, a species of pine tree that has adapted itself to the hot, lowlands of the island, and that is unique to the Bay Islands of Roatan, Barbaretta and [Guanaja](#). This pine species can also be found in the Honduran mainland, specifically in coastal areas. The pine forests coexist with an oak forest that gave its name to one of the most important cities in Roatan: Oakridge.

Most of the island's communities have English names. This is due to the fact that the islands were part of the British Empire until they were ceded to the country of Honduras in 1859 – 1860 as part of the treaty of [Comayagua](#). Since the original settlers were brits from the Cayman Islands, they named the different communities with English names, that have persisted to this day.

Names such as Coxen Hole, French Harbour, Oakridge, Calabash Bight, Politilly Bight, Sandy Bay, Flowers Bay, etc. are all proof of the above. The descendants of the original settlers all have English names, Bodden, McNab, Hyde, Jackson, McLaughlin are all common names on the island, and to this day, islanders prefer to speak English over Spanish, which is the official language of Honduras.

Roatan has two different private cruise ship terminals, an international airport and regularly scheduled passenger ferry service from the port city of [La Ceiba](#) in mainland Honduras. It has a main highway that serves as a backbone to the island, linking West End, the westernmost community on the island

to Camp Bay and Old Port Royal, the easternmost communities on Roatan. The majority of this road is paved, and the part that isn't paved is an all-weather dirt road that can be driven throughout the year. Many less important roads interconnect with the main road and lead to smaller villages as well as to modern resort developments on the island.

Politically the island is divided in two municipalities: The Municipality of Roatan, with its seat of government in Coxen Hole, and the Municipality of Santos Guardiola, with its seat of government in Oakridge. There is no doubt that the most developed part of the island is in the municipality of Roatan. The airport, ferry terminal and both cruise ship terminals are within its limits. In addition, the most developed tourism center on the island, West Bay is also within its limits, and many of the most important projects are here: The Black Pearl Golf Club, Roatan's only golf course is a perfect example.

## **ANTHONY'S KEY RESORT**

Anthony's Key Resort is owned and managed by the Galindo family and has been in operation since 1970. Julio Galindo Sr. (Don Julio) was born and raised on Roatan and his accomplishments far exceed the well-run five-star dive resort that he has managed for more than 30 years. Don Julio and his family have been active in the political, environmental, and social aspects of the Bay Islands for many years.

Shortly after Don Julio began his involvement as manager of AKR, he was elected Mayor of Roatan, a position he served for four years. He took a break from politics after becoming sole owner of the resort and under his direction; the resort underwent several large expansions. One of these expansions included the establishment of the Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences in 1989. As a strong advocate for education, research, and conservation, Don Julio has said, "We can no longer take it for granted that our reefs, lagoons, forests, and the life they support can absorb without damage the development the island will inevitably experience. Opportunities for systematic study and research of our habitats should be offered. It is imperative that we preserve what we have." It is this active interest in the quality of life and environment that put Don Julio back in the political arena once again. In 1990 he was elected Senator of the Bay Islands and was also appointed as Chairman for the Development of the Bay Islands. In 2009 he ran and was elected for mayor and served a four-year term. His wife, Cheryl Galindo, is also an active member of the community. With the guidance and expertise of the Honduran Institute of Anthropology, Cheryl created the Roatan Museum in 1992, which is housed in the RIMS facility. She served as head of the board of directors for the Bay Islands Conservation Association (BICA), a non-profit environmental organization and she is the founder of the Roatan Bilingual School in Coxen Hole. Managers of the resort and US office are Samir, Haydee, and Julito (May 26, 1966-November 13, 2007), Julio and Cheryl's sons and daughter. Assisting them is a dedicated staff of more than 200 office workers, groundskeepers, housekeepers, kitchen and wait-staff, dive staff, boat crew, repair crew, and security. The staff is extremely friendly and courteous and a great source of stories on island life

### **ROOMS**

1 King Bed & 1 Full Bed

400 sq. ft

Key Deluxe bungalows are the most spacious bungalows, and you'll find them dispersed along the perimeter of the key. These overwater bungalows feature wood floors, Honduran hardwood furnishings, natural stone counter-tops, air-conditioning, and high visibility glass windows for spectacular ocean views. Each bungalow has an adjoined private covered deck, inviting you to unwind after a day of diving and rest in a cozy hammock while embracing the tranquility after a day

full of adventure. Access to the key is by island taxi boat, traveling back and forth in the lagoon, between the key and the main island upon request.

- Air Conditioning
- Ceiling Fan
- Wi-Fi
- Hardwood Floors
- Hot Shower
- In-room Safe
- Hair Dryer
- Coffee Maker
- Mini Refrigerator
- Alarm Clock
- Ixora Spa Bath Amenities
- Private Deck

## LOCATION



Anthony's Key is a small cay in the located off the coast of Roatan. Guests can choose between staying in one of our quiet hillside bungalows or enjoy ocean views in one of our gorgeous key-side accommodations.

## THINGS TO DO



Don't be surprised if you find that your favorite afternoon pastime during your stay is lazing in one of their hammocks, enjoying the sights and sounds of the water. However, if you're in the mood for some adventure, you'll find a variety of water-sports equipment on the key's small beach. Enjoy an afternoon dip in the swimming pool, or unwind with a luxurious massage at Ixora Spa.

Back on the main island of their Roatan resort, you'll find one of the most Instagram-worthy spots. With sweeping views, fiery sunsets, and tucked away in the palm-studded hillside, you'll enjoy

spending time in their restaurant and Frangipani Bar. Sip a refreshing cocktail and satisfy your appetite with delicious island fare.

On the dockside, you'll find the Scuba School, Seaside Gifts & Photos, Photo Roatan, AKR's Snack Shop, Dive Shop, and the dock with a fleet of state-of-the-art dive boats. A short walk will take you to the Roatan Museum and Roatan Institute of Marine Sciences. There you can sign-up for educational programs and activities with the dolphins at Bailey's Key.

## RESORT MAP & SERVICES



## DIVING

At Anthony's Key, they want everyone to experience the magical paradise that awaits below the water's surface. They are a PADI 5-Star Career Development Center and ranked as one of the world's top dive resorts for the last 50 years. Whether you're a newbie diver or returning regular, they have a course to match your skill level.

There are endless opportunities to explore the natural treasures that call the waters of Roatan home. At Anthony's Key, they make it easy for you to take advantage of those opportunities. Their Dive Operation offers equipment rentals, a full-service Photo



Shop, PADI Continuing Education Programs, convenient dockside equipment storage, fresh-water showers, and rinse-tanks, dive and snorkel opportunities with the dolphins at the Roatan Institute for Marine Sciences, and an on-site Hyperbaric Chamber and Clinic.

They offer a full array of dive and snorkel gear available for rental on a weekly or daily basis. You'll have an ample stock of regulators, gauges, BC's, wetsuits, and computers to choose from, so there is no need to reserve equipment in advance or pay extra baggage fees to the airlines by bringing your own. Tanks, weights, and weight belts are included in all Dive Packages.

Nitrox: \$10.00 per tank or \$140.00 per week. All prices exclude 15% tax

Equipment Rental	USD
BCD Only (per day / per week)	\$ 15 / \$ 80
Regulator & Computer (per dive / per week)	\$ 22 / \$ 110
Wetsuit (per day / per week)	\$ 12 / \$ 60
Mask & Snorkel (per day / per week)	\$ 8 / \$ 35
Mask, Fins & Snorkel (per day / per week)	\$ 10 / \$ 50
Dive Computer (per day / per week)	\$ 12 / \$ 60



All AKR divers will appreciate the comfort and convenience of diving on their modern fleet of seven Pro 42' Custom Dive Boats, two Newton 46' Dive Specials, and four Pro 48' Custom Dive Boats. Along with a small number of fellow divers, you'll be whisked away to 35 different dive sites, located just 5 to 30 minutes away. Unrivaled in the Caribbean region, their fleet is comfortable, safe, and convenient.

## SNORKELING

About 95% of marine life species in the Caribbean make their home among Roatan's reefs. From a lush underwater garden of pristine corals and sponges to other marine residents like Caribbean reef sharks and loggerhead turtles, the waters teem with vivid undersea wonders.

With guided snorkel trips offered twice a day, you'll have up-close encounters with diverse fish, coral, and other marine life. With our dedicated 46' flat-top snorkel boat, you'll be able to weave inside and outside the reef. You can also snorkel at your own pace around Bailey's Key or in the resort's backyard lagoon.

Our snorkel packages include a convenient Underwater Fish ID card to help you spot Roatan's indigenous organisms and sea life. You'll receive a Dolphin Beach Encounter and a Reef Ecology Lecture and Fish ID Slide Show when you book the 7-night Snorkel Package.

If you're a dolphin fan, why not snorkel with them? For an additional charge, you can enjoy a unique opportunity to snorkel with these playful and graceful creatures in the protected area of Bailey's Key. It's an amazing experience you won't soon forget!

## HEALTH & SAFETY PER AKR

At Anthony's Key Resort, our priority is the overall health and safety of our guests and employees. As the Coronavirus remains a global public health concern, we want to let you know what we are doing to keep our resort as safe as possible.

We take hygiene and cleanliness very seriously and have always adhered to the highest standards. Now, we are taking additional steps to ensure the safety of our guests and staff. Our health and safety measures include everything from handwashing hygiene and cleaning product specifications, to guests' rooms and common area cleaning procedures.

Our protocols address a broad spectrum of viruses, including COVID-19. Specific additional steps we are taking include:

### Employee Health, Safety, and Knowledge:

Resort employee's health, safety, and knowledge are essential to an effective cleaning program. Here are some ways we're supporting them:

- **Hand Hygiene:** Proper and frequent handwashing is vital to help combat the spread of viruses. In our staff meetings, we remind our team that cleanliness and stopping the spread of the infection starts with this simple act. We have handwashing signage placed in strategic areas for reinforcement and reminders.
- **Respiratory Etiquette:** Includes wearing masks where appropriate and covering coughs and sneezes. We ask that if an employee shows any cold or flu symptoms to let us know and not report to work until cleared by a physician.
- **Ongoing Training:** In addition to training on housekeeping and hygiene protocols, employees are also completing enhanced COVID-19 awareness training.

### Cleaning Products and Protocols:

We use cleaning products and protocols which are effective against viruses, including:

- **Guests' Rooms:** We use cleaning and disinfecting protocols to clean rooms after guests depart and before the next guest arrives, with particular attention paid to high-touch items. We provide housekeepers with protective face masks and gloves to use while cleaning.
- **Public Spaces:** We have increased the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting in public spaces, with a focus on the counter at the front desk, door handles, public bathrooms, boat rails, handrails, even room keys. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is available at the entrances of all high-volume public areas such as the front desk and dining room.
- **Back of House:** In the back of the house, we have increased the frequency of cleaning and focusing on high-touch areas like doorknobs, laundry rooms, storerooms, and staff offices.
- **Dive Equipment Rentals:** All rental equipment is adequately cleaned and disinfected so that transmissible pathogens are killed. Among the procedures we follow are:
  - Regulators and snorkels are washed in a separate basin from wetsuits and other equipment, using an antiseptic solution.
  - We use the recommended bleach solution of 1:100 dilution for disinfection, and the recommended submersion time of 30 minutes observed.

### Onsite Medical Clinic:

The Cornerstone Hyperbaric Chamber and Medical Clinic are located on the property. The clinic is staff with three doctors, one pharmacist, two lab technicians, and 24/7 on-call medical personnel. We've ensured that the clinic is equipped to include the appropriate equipment and supplies needed to address new protocols.

### Airport Transfers:

We use privately owned buses for transfers for all guests. We will reduce the number of guests transported to ensure proper social distancing. All buses will be supplied with sanitizer for use by each guest when boarding and vehicles will also be re-sanitized after every trip.

Physical Distancing:

Anthony's Key has always been about natural surroundings. Guests enjoy plenty of space between them when staying in individual bungalows spread out on the 9-acre private Key. Our main dining room and bar is open-air and brings in fresh breezes from the ocean. And now, we're introducing new ways to encourage our guests to maintain safe social distancing while still providing a relaxing resort experience.

Dining:

- Extended meal times.
- Safe distance table setups in our restaurant and bar.
- Reduced buffet service.
- No self-service at buffets.

Diving:

- Expanded dive boat departure times.
- Reduced divemaster to diver ratios.

Check-In:

- Guests can [check-in online](#), letting them skip the Front Desk and go straight to their room upon arrival.

We hope this reassures you about the preventive action we take to reduce the spread of germs and to ensure our guests' health and safety when they are in our resort.

## HISTORY

The Bay Islands are located approximately 40 miles north of the coast of Honduras and offer a very different world from mainland Honduras. They consist of three main islands, Utila, Roatan and Guanaja, as well as numerous cays. Roatan is the largest, measuring 37 miles long and 3 miles wide. The islands' history, which includes many disputes between the Spaniards and the British during colonial times have given the islands a unique heritage.

The pre-Columbian indigenous peoples of the Bay Islands are believed to have been related to Paya, Maya, Lenca or Jicaque, which were the cultures present on the mainland. During the Maya reign in Central America (between the 4th and 10th centuries), the Paya Indians populated the Bay Islands. The Payas were a smaller and less advanced group than the Mayans. Their civilization was characterized by simpler housing and tools. Payan artifacts (pottery, jade, and shells) are often found in Island burial and ceremonial sites and are referred to by the locals as "yaba ding dings."

During the 13th and 14th centuries, Europeans discovered these islands. For almost 200 years Spanish conquistadores and British pirates battled for control of these islands, for the most part ignoring the Indians. In contesting with the Spanish for colonization of the Caribbean, the English occupied the Bay Islands on and off between 1550 and 1700. During this time, pirates found the vacated, mostly unprotected islands a haven for safe harbor and transport. English, French and Dutch pirates established settlements on the islands. They frequently raided Spanish cargo vessels carrying gold and other treasures from the New World to Spain. European pirates like Henry Morgan, Coxen, Morris and Van Horn used the island as a base for raiding Spanish ships beginning in the 1600s. They took refuge in the many hidden ports on Roatan, spending time hunting and fishing and lazing about in the tropical sun.

After the Spanish eventually left the islands, the Bay Islands were re-settled first by the Garifuna, who settled in Punta Gorda on Roatan, and later by British-descended settlers from the Cayman Islands, who set up colonies in Utila, Roatan and Guanaja. The Garifuna story began to unfold a thousand years ago when the Arawak, a South American tribe of hunters and gatherers, moved up the Orinoco River, through Honduras and into the Caribbean Sea, where they traded with the Caribs. The mixture of Carib and Arawak created a new people who came to be known as 'Island Caribs'.

The British eventually established control of the Bay Islands, until the early 1960's when control of the Islands was officially returned to Honduras.

You'll receive a warm greeting from our friendly, bilingual (English & Spanish) population whose ancestral origins are a combination of the eight separate cultures that both fought and flourished here during the past 400 years. In the 1970's divers discovered Roatan's pristine reef and the tourist industry was born. Over the past 15 years Roatan has experienced increased development that allows current visitors to enjoy paved roads, well-stocked supermarkets, medical clinics, phone and wireless internet access but the island is still a small, tropical paradise...and one of the best-kept secrets in the Caribbean.

The Islands have evolved into a microcosm of many cultures that is not easy to describe. In recent years, the number of North Americans and Europeans living in the Bay Islands, especially on Roatán, has grown dramatically. They have brought many changes, some good and some not so good. Once pristine beaches and verdant hillsides are now sites for homes, restaurants, resorts, and other developments. As this new development occurs, fresh water supplies are being strained, and the need for a modern infrastructure is apparent. RECO (Roatán Electric Cooperative) provides adequate electricity, but no sewage or water treatment plants exist. Telephones are difficult or impossible to get in most places. Ironically, cable television is widely available.

Created in response to the ecological risks facing the Islands, The Bay Islands Conservation Association (BICA) "is striving to establish a strong sense of awareness ... of the importance of conserving and protecting the islands' natural resources." [Cheryl Galindo, Introduction to "The Bay Islands: People and Nature"].