

PANDAN ISLAND RESORT

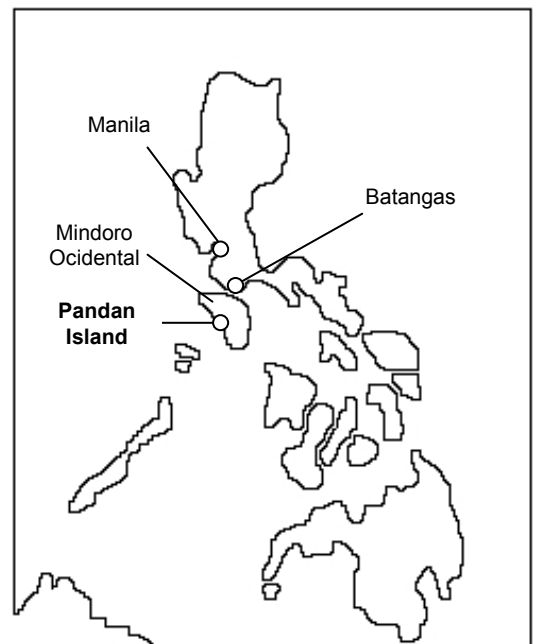
5104 SABLAYAN, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO, PHILIPPINES



the resort:

Facing the South China Sea, halfway on the coastal road between Mamburao and San Jose, lays the small fishing town of Sablayan. Off its coast, only a twenty minutes boat ride away, is Pandan Island (North), a tropical island just 16 ha 'big'. Having been uninhabited for many years, this paradise was 'discovered' by a French adventurer, who established Pandan Island Resort around 1987.

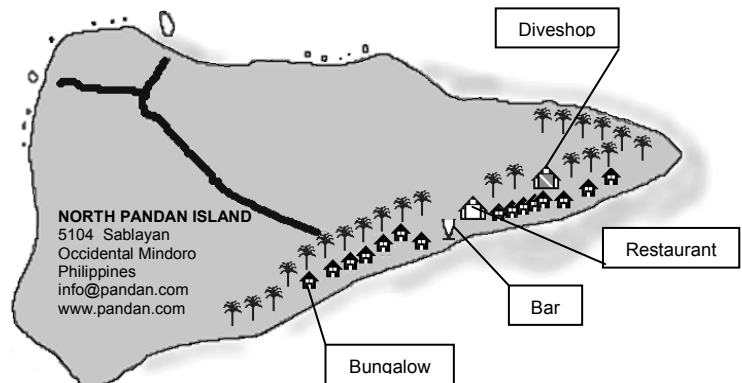
The resort consists of 16 clean rooms and bungalows, a restaurant, a beach bar and a dive center. The bungalows are all built from native materials and care has been taken to create a simple yet comfortable atmosphere, with a lot of privacy and nature around each cottage to let you enjoy the fascination of the tropical surroundings.



All bungalows are facing the South China Sea and have their own shower and toilet, (except for the five budget rooms, that share two bathrooms), a private terrace and mosquito nets. Since there is no generator on the island, all electricity needed for lights is produced by a solar system (12V), installed on each cottage. 220 V is only available in the dive shop to charge Lights, cameras, laptops etc.

The restaurant serves Filipino and French food. Lunch and dinner are buffet style and offer a variety of fresh fish, poultry or meat with vegetables, fruits and coffee. Being under French management, there is always a selection of white and red wines available.

The bar invites to sip a tropical drink, play a game of pool or darts and watch the sun sinking into the South China Sea.



Other activities include sunset cruises, volleyball, table-tennis, seakajaks and bird watching. Motorbike- and sight-seeing trips can also be arranged on nearby Mindoro.

The resort only occupies a small part of the island; most of the island is covered by a dense jungle with an abundant bird and plant life. In 1994 a marine park was established around the island. Thanks to a strict no fishing and "hands off" (divers & snorkelers) policy, the variety and density of the marine life is truly astonishing.

the diveshop:

Mariposa Divers Pandan was established on Pandan Island in 1992. Under Swiss/Czech management, this small but well equipped diveshop offers PADI courses of all levels in three languages (English, French, and German). There are eleven complete sets of equipment (Sherwood and Mares-BCD's, Mares and Sherwood regulators) and 40 aluminum tanks available for rent, breathing air is supplied by 3 compressors. NITROX is available on the island as well as on the M/B Pikoy.

The dive sites around the island vary from shallow coral gardens to deep drop-offs on the north side, ideal for all levels of divers. All sites are easily reached from the beach or with our dive catamaran in not more than fifteen minutes.

dive safaris:

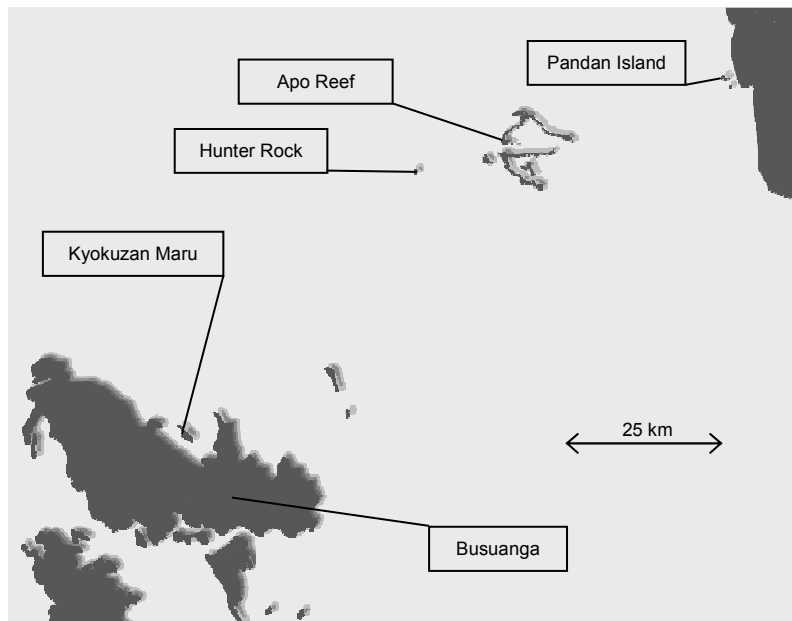
One of the most exciting activities on Pandan Island is to go on a dive safari with one of our two dive boats, 'M/B PIKOY' or 'M/B MAHAL'. Both vessels are local outrigger boats, called 'bangkas' or 'bancas' and have been custom built for dive safaris.

Modern navigation and communication equipment, Schifauer Air-compressors, Wenoll oxygen systems and flushing toilets are standard on both bancas.

Our two main destinations for safaris are Apo Reef, with its coral gardens and deep walls for one or two days trips and Coron (Busuanga) with its hundred of islets and its famous World War II wrecks for four to six days trips.

Pandan Island is the closest dive operator to the world-known Apo Reef, and is established as the leading diveshop organizing dive-safaris to the reef. Apo Reef can be reached with the big outrigger boats 'M/B PIKOY' and 'M/B MAHAL' in only ninety minutes. This forty square kilometers big atoll, the biggest in the Philippines, offers uncountable dive sites and a good chance to see sharks and other pelagics, turtles are also very common.

Another specialty is the four to six days safaris to Coron (Busuanga) to dive the Japanese wrecks from World War II. If you do not have much time but still like to experience a wreck dive, we now offer a special three day safari that includes dives on Apo Reef, Hunters Rock and one of the best preserved wrecks of Coron, Kyokuzan Maru (Dimalanta Wreck).



Some of the best wall and wreck diving in South-East Asia at a price that is hard to beat.

For more details check our website at www.pandan.com.

how to get there:

Important: All information about schedules may change, check with the transport company before planning your trip or contact us.

From Manila

- **Via San Jose**

- By airplane

- **Asian Spirit, daily,**

- approx 40 US\$US\$ one-way, approx 80 US\$US\$ return

- Manila - San Jose: Flight number: 6K541 to San Jose, Occidental Mindoro.

- Departure time: 0545 Arrival in San Jose: 0700

- San Jose - Manila: Flight number: 6K 540

- Departure time: 0730 Arrival in Manila: 0830

- e-mail:info@asianspirit.com website:

- <http://www.asianspirit.com/flightsched.html>

- tel: 0063-2-551-11-53

- By night-ferry 'NIKKI' from Manila to San Jose once a week.
Departure: Sunday 1800 from pier 6 (North Harbor).Moreto Lines
Arrival in San Jose about 0800 am.
Return to Manila on Monday 1730, arrival in Manila on Tuesday morning 0800.
approx. 10 US\$US\$, often full you should make a reservation
Tel : +63 -0 2 721 64 80
- By Bus from Manila to Batangas Bus company JAM (Buendia station), Duration 2-3 hrs, and several trips daily. Daily night ferry from Batangas Pier to San Jose
- Departure time 1730 arrival in San Jose around 0700.

Transfer from the San Jose to Pandan is possible by private boat or jeep (upon reservation) or by public bus to Sablayan. From Sablayan market, Pandan Island can be reached by water taxi (100 US\$ Pesos).

- **Via Abra de Ilog**

Batangas - Abra Ferry

Note: As the schedules for the ferry changes frequently make sure you check with your travel agent or the Passenger Terminal before departure

Infos and Reservation at Passenger Terminal Batangas +63 (0)43 723 82 43

Departure from Batangas: 0400, 0800, 1200, 1600

Duration 3 hrs.

In Abra there are buses waiting to bring you to Sablayan. From there by water taxi to Pandan.

From Puerto Galera

Rent a boat in Puerto Galera to bring you to Abra (Cost 25 - 40 US\$\$, depending on the size of the Bangka) duration 1 hrs, from there take a bus to Sablayan. Try to time your arrival with the arrival of the ferry from Batangas to avoid waiting in Abra.

From Coron

MV Aida offers a regular connection between San Jose (Mindoro Occidental) and Coron Town (Busuanga)

Departure: Every Tuesday 9 AM from Coron Town

Return: Every Sunday 9 AM from San Jose to Coron Town

Note: As the schedules for the ferry changes frequently make sure you check with your travel agent or Jackson Escalado Cell +63 9183526408 or +63 9182116099 before departure.

From Boracay

Ferry from Caticlan to Roxas (Mindoro Oriental) every day. Bus from Roxas to San Jose to Sablayan. Duration 10 hrs.

On request we can also do a pick-up service from San Jose or Abra de Ilog by boat (San Jose) or Aircon Van from Abra de Ilog (max 7 persons). Please contact us

travel tips:

Climate:

The climate is typically tropical with a sometimes windy (average 7 days / month) dry season from December to March, a hot dry season from April to May and at least one very wet month between July and October.

Money:

Bring enough cash money (Philippine Pesos or US Dollars as there is no moneychanger in Sablayan), and only US\$ 300, - per day can be changed at the bank in San Jose. Due to the better exchange rates given in Manila, it is advisable to change enough money there. We do accept travellercheques

Note: Credit cannot be accepted on Pandan.

Electricity:

12 V DC solar powers, no generator. Batteries can be charged at the diveshop (220V inverter)

Health:

No vaccinations are mandatory for the Philippines.

Language: Official language is Tagalog (Philippino) but English is widely spoken.

Communication: Cell phones (Smart and Globe Networks) receive a signal on Pandan Island; an internet connection is available in the diveshop

Dive tanks: 8-15 liter aluminum tanks with INT-connections.

More information: www.pandan.com, info@pandan.com or call us at +63 919 305 78 21

Pricelist: http://www.pandan.com/documents/Pandan_Pricelist_2009.pdf