



Shark Guardian Dive Center Code of Conduct and Responsibilities

The Shark Guardian Dive Center is a unique recognition awarded to those dive centers who play an active role in shark and marine conservation. Shark Guardian Dive Centers are partners of the Shark Guardian UK Charity and are included in an extensive network of dive operations around the world. Shark Guardian Dive Centers specifically support Shark Guardian educational programs, conservation campaigns, research projects and expeditions worldwide.

Shark Guardian Dive Center Code of Conduct

Shark Guardian Dive Centers are recognized by their high standards and respect for shark and marine conservation. To maintain this standard it is important for our dive center partners to follow the Shark Guardian Dive Center Code of Conduct outlined below.

- **Safety Equipment & Procedures** - All Shark Guardian Dive Centers are required to have the highest standards in training and safety.
 1. Snorkel guides, Dive guides, Divemasters and Instructors must have both visual and audible surface signalling devices included in their required list of equipment specified by their relevant scuba training organizations.
 2. Snorkel guides must have a safety station or floatation device ready for use and available for snorkelers who may need assistance.
 3. Emergency oxygen equipment, first aid kits and emergency evacuation plans must be in place and ready to use at dive or snorkel sites.

- **Do not Damage Marine Life** - Encourage and educate divers to achieve good buoyancy control to save crashing into reefs, be aware of their fins that may come into contact with the reef or kicking up sand or silt. Snorkelers must be encouraged and educated to never walk on or make contact with reefs or corals especially when in shallow water.
 - **Do Not Touch Marine Life** - Encourage and educate divers and snorkelers to never touch any animal in the ocean. This also includes never chasing, riding or changing the behavior of any marine animal in any way. Shark Guardian Dive Centers should have a penalty procedure in place for anyone who violates this rule.
 - **No Feeding** - Do not feed any marine creatures - It is not natural!
 - **No Fishing** - Shark Guardian Dive Centers are ambassadors of the marine environment. Fishing from your dive boat will contradict your environmental code to those diving and snorkeling with you.
 - **No Anchoring** - Boat anchor damage has a massive impact to coral reefs that are important to a variety of marine species and ecosystems. Shark Guardian Dive Center boats must use fixed moorings where they are available or tie off onto other boats using moorings.
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Shark Guardian Dive Center Responsibilities

There are several advantages dive centers benefit from partnering with Shark Guardian. To get the most out of your Shark Guardian Dive Center recognition, we ask that dive centers please abide by their responsibilities listed here below:

Communication:

- Every Shark Guardian Dive Center needs to appoint a Shark Guardian Dive Center Leader within the business. The Shark Guardian Dive Center Leader will be the main point of contact between the dive center and Shark Guardian.
- Regular updates showing your dive centers active involvement with Shark Guardian. At least ONCE every 2 months, blog or share an image or video on your Dive Center social media with a link to Shark Guardian social media (Shark Guardian Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.)
- By Linking Shark Guardian on your social media it will also allow us to share your news with our followers and other partners - more exposure for you!

Education, Presentations & Events:

- When possible, get involved in Shark Guardian events such as presentation evenings, fund raisers and social events which may be held in your location.
- Help promote Shark Guardian news, events and education programs in your dive center and on your social media.
- Use the Shark Guardian Flip Chart for briefings on the dive boat and/or in the dive shop for diving guests and students.

Research and Citizen Science Projects

- Be familiar and actively involved with the promotion and implementation of ongoing Shark Guardian research and citizen science projects within your dive center and its members. Current Shark Guardian Projects include:
 - The eOceans Project
 - Spot the Leopard Shark Project
 - Whale Shark Project

Shark Guardian Shop Display & Stock Management

- Create and maintain a shark conservation area of your dive center. Utilize and display Shark Guardian promotional and educational materials including posters and information leaflets. The appointed Shark Guardian Dive Center Leader should be involved with this setup.
- The appointed Shark Guardian Dive Center Leader can manage or assist shop management with Shark Guardian merchandise including stock control and ordering.

All funds raised by the sales of Shark Guardian merchandise supports Shark Guardian educational programs, conservation campaigns and research projects worldwide.

As a Shark Guardian Dive Center you play a key role for supporting Shark Guardian and our Projects.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email General: info@sharkguardian.org

Email Merchandise & Materials: sales@sharkguardian.org

Website: www.sharkguardian.org

SHARK GUARDIAN SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#)

RESEARCH PROJECTS

[eOceans Project](#)

[eShark Data Entering](#)

[Spot The Leopard Shark](#)

[Whale Shark Project](#)