

Cuba Jardines de la Reina

An underwater paradise is all that comes to mind when you first enter the water. Imagine the vertical walls covered with brightly hued sponges, huge Pilar Corals, black corals extending its branches in the contrasting blue water. Many species of gorgonians, fragile laminar corals showing their beautiful shapes through crevices, canyons and caves. The mangroves providing an incredible nursery area for young fish populations, filtering the water that goes to the reef together with the sea grass beds and in return receiving protection from the open ocean wave energy; all interconnected in a very fragile net that helps keep its variety, richness and splendor. The biggest populations of adult fish in the Caribbean, Sharks, Snappers and Groupers; Jewfish up to 400 pounds are an everyday experience. Sharks are one of the main attractions and you can see them everywhere. You can easily dive with 6 different species: Silkies, Reef, Lemon, Black tip, King Hammerhead and nurse sharks. From July to November you have the chance to swim with Whale Sharks. Gardens of the Queen is certainly one of the last virgin reefs known by man. Dive and snorkel sites are well protected from the winds and sea currents. Visibility is more than 40 meters. There is a wide variety of fish and corals.

The Gardens of the Queen Marine Park is a wonderful place, both in and out of the water. This marine park is probably the most important group of islands in the Caribbean, integrated by one million-acre wetlands. In addition, this marine park acts as a critical refuge for North American birds migrating along the route through Florida and the Gulf of Mexico to South America. This wildlife sanctuary hosts more than 68 species of migratory birds.

Avalon has taken the utmost care in building and restoring our dive boats continually over the last 25 years. First, there was the 50' Explorador, refitted and transformed into La Reina. Then the Halcon, an old wooden boat with a noble past; and next the Georgiana. In 2010 the Jardines Avalon I became our first brand new boat built from scratch, and she is beautiful and comfortable with 8 staterooms cruising to the outer edges of the Gardens of the Queen. In 2014, we took this model of size and luxury even further; the Jardines Avalon II at 120 feet with 10 cabins, is a wonderful vessel cherished and loved by all.

The 160 foot Jardines Avalon III is a luxury motor yacht with 15 staterooms, including 4 suites with balcony. All cabins have private bathrooms and 2

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beds (double or twin), air-conditioned with individual thermostats. Jardines Avalon III has an overall capacity of 30 passengers and 12 crew members.

There is a plethora of space onboard among its 3 panoramic decks. With a hot tub and full time crew at your every beck and call, you will find care and comfort in all of her details. Divers will dive using 3 shadowed 33 foot diving skiffs and have access to two Nitrox and two air compressors covering all of your diving needs.

Jardines Avalon III is strikingly beautiful and we are so proud of how she turned out and we very much look forward to hosting you onboard!

Program

Program includes transfers from / to the Santa Clara or Camaguey Airport to Jucaro Port (2 1/2 hours) where our Liveaboard departs from. Transfers are included for flights arriving by 6pm Saturday at both airports. Guests arriving before may wait for the transfer. Transfer from/to Havana on request (not included).

Clients arriving by their own to Jucaro will board around 6pm. Diving will start on Sunday morning through Friday. Up to 4 dives/day (including night dives).

American Clients: our cruises fall under the People-to-People educational category.

Marine Biologists working with Avalon will be speaking with the clients about Marine conservation and the Gardens of the Queen's unique ecosystem.

Saturday 9:30am: disembark and transfer to Santa Clara , Camaguey Airport or to Havana

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Boat specifications	Description
Year created	2019
Length	160'
Width	28'
Top speed	20 knots
Cruising speed	12 knots
Max guests	30
Number of cabins	15 (11 cabins + 4 suites with balcony - all cabins, except 4, have twin beds convertible in double beds)
Bathrooms	15
Diving Skiffs	3

Boat features

- 5 Cummins KTA total 3500 Hp
- 3 Genset John Deere
- 2 SK WaterMaker
- 4 Nuvaire dive compressors 2 Air / 2 Nitrox
- Next generation Northern Lights Chiller AC individually controlled
- Large AC lounge
- Large open-air areas
- Top open air bar with Hot Tub
- Huge dive deck and camera tables
- 12 people crew
- Laundry Service
- Daily housekeeping
- Audio & video entertainment
- TV & Aircon in cabins
- Indoor Saloon
- Warm Water Showers
- 220v in bar and restaurant
- USB in bar, restaurant, rooms

Food & Drinks

- Western Food
- Local Food
- Vegetarian Options
- Beer available
- Selection of wines
- Fine Cuisine
- Snacks All Day

Diving

- DIN Adaptors
- Nitrox available
- Rinse hosts
- Dive deck
- Tenders for diving

Boat navigation, communication and safety features

- Radar

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- Depth Sounder
- GPS
- Radio VHF/DSC/SSB
- Emergency Rafts
- Life Vests
- Fire Alarm & Fire Extinguishers
- Oxygen
- First Aid Kits
- Fishfinder
- Bilge pump alarm
- Engine room CCTV
- Crew trained in first aid