

# Palau-Full/New Moon Spawning Cruises

A Spawning Cruise on board S/Y Palau Siren is a truly exceptional and inspirational experience. Spawning Cruises are only available at certain times of the year, as they follow the lunar cycle. Divers who join S/Y Palau Siren on these cruises will have a chance to witness one of the most spectacular natural events on earth.

Choose between the spawning aggregations of the **bumphead parrotfish** (*bolbomeotpon muricatum*) occurring at new moon and the **red snapper** (*lutjanus bohar*) at full moon lunar cycles.

At new moon, thousands of bumphead parrotfish gather together in one area at one particular time each month. Building up to a spectacular showdown, males begin their display of dominance, attempting to attract as many mating partners as possible. As females continue to gather, the school spills out into the blue where the tension erupts into a climatic mating dance. At full moon, red snappers aggregate to show their own similar spawning spectacle full of energy and excitement. Not surprisingly, these events also attract the biggest predators in Palau, such as bull sharks, oceanic blacktip sharks, and hammerheads. Watch how they hunt actively within the large school of spawning fish. It is something only a select few people ever get to witness and you can now be one of them!



In addition to these special spawning dives, S/Y Palau Siren offers 'Blackwater' diving in Palau. Imagine rolling off the boat in the pitch black of night, sometimes many miles away from the shallow water of the reefs, to watch one of the largest migrations on earth as all manner of weird and wonderful creatures from the depths head closer to the surface to feed. From post larval fish to Cephalopods, many smaller than your finger nail, these amazing dives present some of the weirdest creatures you are ever likely to see without a submarine.

During the Spawning Cruise, the Cruise Director will give a number of presentations about these unique dives. These informative talks will cover everything from the ecology of these events to the best way to photograph them.

In terms of dive arrangements, the group will be split into two teams of eight divers to witness these spectacular events, thereby maximising the experience and ensuring that we only observe, not interfere with, this spectacular marine behaviour.

Please note that these dives are only for the experienced diver – AOW or equivalent is recommended - as there can often be very strong currents at the sites where the action is happening. Also, we highly recommend our guests are Nitrox certified.

### **Spawning Special Itinerary Fee**

If you are booked on the Full Moon (Red Snapper) or New Moon (Bumphead Parrotfish) Spawning Cruise, there is an additional \$240 fee, which is **included** in the published price.

**Full/New Moon Spawning itineraries are available on selected S/Y Palau Siren cruises: check all available dates via this [link](#).**

If you have any questions or would like to book a Spawning Cruise, contact our team on [info@sirenfleet.com](mailto:info@sirenfleet.com) who will be happy to assist you.