



# KOSAMARE

Kefalonian Organisation  
for the Study & Awareness  
of the Marine Environment



## 2024 Scientific Diving Course *KEFALONIA - GREECE*





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## INTRODUCTION

During the 2 weeks of the **Scientific Diving Course**, you will take part in the Kosamare programme in partnership with the Marine protected area aiming to understand and protect the area. At the end of the course, you will gain a **PADI distinctive speciality certification in introduction to scientific diving techniques**.

While learning different techniques used in scientific diving, you will actively collect data that is useful for the conservation of the Northern Kefalonia's water.



## COURSE'S LOCATION

**Kefalonia** is a Greek island located in the Ionian sea, just in front of Ithaca. The largest of the Ionian Islands, it is home to a rich biodiversity, much of which is hidden from view beneath the waves. Meadows of Neptune Grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) support the marine ecosystem and grow where water conditions are good. The Mediterranean Monk Seal (*Monachus monachus*) lives in isolated caves and Loggerhead Turtles (*Caretta caretta*) nest and mate around the island.

**Fiskardo** is a village in the North of Kefalonia with a small and diminishing fishing fleet, and a growing tourism industry. You'll find a lot of restaurants and all the facilities you will need.

When the rest of Kefalonia was largely destroyed in the 1953 Ionian Earthquake, Fiskardo survived and its characteristic Venetian architecture remains.





## COURSE'S DESCRIPTION

### INTRODUCTION TO SCIENTIFIC DIVING TECHNIQUES

During the two weeks you will be introduced to the local ecosystem by **PADI instructors & marine biologists**.

You will follow classes in and out of the water to improve your diving skills such as navigation and buoyancy and learn the different techniques that can be used in scientific diving, such as **quadrats, transects and fish surveys**.

### POSIDONIA SURVEYS

You will be fully part of our ***Posidonia oceanica* monitoring programme**. After taking part in a few training dives you will be able to carry out **underwater surveys using quadrat and transect methods**.

The gathered data will help us define the **density** and the **percentage of coverage** of the seagrass meadows in 4 different bays.

### FISH IDENTIFICATION & SURVEYS

This will include an introduction to **fish identification** and a few dives of training on Mediterranean fish identification & **fish sizing**.

Then you will be carrying out **fish biodiversity assessments** in 4 different areas.





## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE ?

To participate to this 2 weeks programme, the participants should meet some requirements:

- Being over **18 years old**.
- Having the **PADI OpenWater** certificate minimum (or equivalent)
- Being comfortable with underwater skills.
- Having a **health certification** for diving.
- Speaking **English**.
- Comfortable with communal living, enthusiastic and open-minded!

\*This certification can be acquired in Fiskardo before the programme (see the section below).

## THE DIVING

All the diving activities are done in collaboration with **Fiskardo divers eco dive resort**. For a long time, Fiskardo divers has been running eco-related activities and is now closely related to Kosamare, it's just like one big family ! All the instructors for the Scientific diving course are instructors from Fiskardo Divers. During the course, they will provide us with Scubapro diving equipment, facilities and accommodation.



\* **IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ANY CERTIFICATION OR TEN DIVES LOGGED**, you can come a week before the beginning of the programme and get trained. This has an extra cost. However, special packages for the OW course and the diving are offered to the students. (if you want any more information, send us directly an email or contact [fiskardodivers@yahoo.com](mailto:fiskardodivers@yahoo.com)).



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## PRICE & DATES 2024

1. 25<sup>th</sup> of May to 8<sup>th</sup> of June
2. 8<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> of June

1350 EUROS



## BE PART OF THE TEAM!



## CONTACT US



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