

Dive Adventures

Cavern Diver Specialty

Who should take this course?

Caverns exist in many areas where scuba divers venture – from freshwater springs to volcanic island walls and limestone coasts. In these locations you'll find large, dark spaces that seem incredibly inviting, yet are potentially dangerous. The PADI Cavern Diver Specialty course gives you the knowledge and skills to explore caverns correctly – allowing you to enter far enough for adventure, but staying within the light zone for an easy exit to open water.

Description

This course develops the minimum skills and knowledge for cavern diving, and describes the dangers involved with cave diving. Planning, environment, procedures, techniques, problem solving, and other specialized needs of cavern diving are covered.

Problem solving in cavern diving includes, but is not limited to: body positioning (trim), buoyancy control, emergency procedures, line following, and propulsion techniques.

Accident analysis forms the basis of this learning experience. Special emphasis on the unique environment includes silting, entanglement, disorientation, and equipment modifications.

The Cavern Diver Course is in no way intended to provide instruction for cave diving. This course level is an entry-level program for those interested in cave diving, and is also a safety program for open water divers. (Description courtesy of the NSS-CDS)

What You Will Learn

This is a challenging and very exciting course that includes four training dives over at least two days. During your first open water dives you'll practice line handling, reel use and emergency procedures without entering a cavern. But, for your next two dives, you're headed into the cavern, staying within the light zone and 130 feet total distance from the surface.

- Cavern navigation and line protocols
- Planning, organization, techniques, problems and hazards of cavern diving
- Special equipment use, such as lights, guidelines, reels and redundant breathing systems
- Air sharing, disorientation, silting, line problems and other emergency procedures specific to cavern diving.
- Silt prevention, buoyancy control, air management and emergency procedures
- Depth and distant limits for cavern diving.

Prerequisites

Be 18 years or older

PADI Advanced Open Water Diver or equal certification from another organization.

Learning Materials Required

“NSS-CDS Cavern Diving Manual” by Joe Prosser and HV Grey

Equipment Requirements

- 80 cubic foot or greater single cylinder only (H-Valve allowed)
- Single hose regulator with an octopus (5 ft. octopus hose) and submersible pressure gauge.
- Exposure suit suitable for dive environment
- BC with power inflator
- Underwater Slate, Line cutting device (no big knife)
- Timing device and tables or personal dive computer
- Appropriate weight
- Primary reel (Cavern) and safety reel
- Two battery powered lights (Primary and back-up)

Duration

- On site class lecture
- One land based skill development session
- Two training dives in open water developing basic skills
- Two training dives in the cavern zone
- This course is conducted over two days.

Fees

\$275.00

Student pays for dive and equipment fees.