



Scuba Emporium

16336 S 104th Avenue Orland Park, IL 60467
(708) 226-1614

DIVE MEXICO

Diving Mexico, is it safe? Is it worth it?

I am here to tell you get on the next flight it is fantastic. I have been running trips to Mexico for years, and have to tell you I not only feel very safe but love the people. The hotels are clean water is safe and the dive operators are as good as anywhere else. If Mexico is not on your bucket list I am here to tell you to make it there. I do not think it matters if you were going to Rocky Point, San Carlos or where I Just came back from Cancun. Cancun and Cozumel offer some great diving and assume caves as well. But I want to tell you about my recent experience to Cancun. For whale shark diving and I am talking skin diving. Imagine that a dive trip with no equipment, I went with just carry on; now that in itself was interesting.

We left Chicago on Monday Morning and at noon we were in the hotel having lunch. We stayed at one of the best properties I have ever been at, Dreams Cancun Resorts and Spa. They have an assume Dolphin program there and just out in front of our rooms we the dolphins, we could sit on the veranda and have coffee watching the dolphins. They have some very nice restaurants and bars there as well as a large pool. But now for the real reason we were in Cancun, The whale sharks.

Tuesday Morning we walk over to the dive Center Solobuceo (www.solobuceo.com) we were greeted by Rodrigo Friscione the owner's son. He spoke great English and gave a nice briefing. We then got into the boats and headed 20 miles out to encounter almost 100 whale sharks. This event is controlled by the government so we were allowed to enter two at a time. After every one had their turn we went around again. I have been a skin diver since I was a child. SCUBA has been my passion for the past 45 years. But this skin dive was one for the log book. We had sharks all around us, under us over us and in front of us. These whale sharks seem to move so slowly until you try to swim along with them. I was amazed at their speed. What also got me was how sensitive they are to us. I had two one on each side of me. I just stopped moving and they floated by. Karina, one of the divers moved fast and the shark just touched her. She hurt for two days. They just knew where we were and that we were safe to hang with. All I can say is WOW! We had on that been just resting looking up to the sky he was so long I could hardly see his tail.



www.scubaemporium.com

Scuba Emporium

16336 S 104th Avenue Orland Park, IL 60467
(708) 226-1614

DIVE MEXICO

This skin dive is an experience of a lifetime and anyone reading this should plan on going. I asked Rodrigo, how is it I had been coming to that area for 30 years and never heard of this. He reminded me of the old slow boats we would dive from. He was in a modern Boston whaler with twin 250's. Now the next time we go I plan to do the Bull shark dive they offer and of course I need to get back into the Cenote's.

These photos were taken by Rodrigo Friscione, friscion@gmail.com. Mexico is safe and fun; the people love to see us and are very friendly. Even the underwater world welcomed us. I will be back next June July and August. I plan to run three trips from my store. I hope you can enjoy the Whales sharks of Cancun

Patrick Hammer

PADI COURSE DIRECTOR and Founder

SCUBA EMPORIUM, Orland Park, Illinois