

Similan & Surin Islands

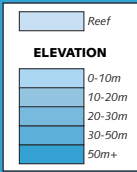
0 — 10 km
 0 — 6 miles
 not for navigation



Surin Islands



See Surin Islands Enlargement



ANDAMAN SEA

41
40

Similan Islands



0 — 3 km
 0 — 2 miles

See Similan Islands Enlargement



A photographer pursues some snapper

Similan & Surin Islands

A healthy upper Similan reef



SIMILAN ISLANDS

The Similan Islands National Park is a series of strikingly beautiful granite and jungle islands with some stunning beaches and great undersea diversity. Diving here normally originates from Phuket and is done by liveaboards running anywhere from two-day to two-week trips. The water clarity and healthy reefs make these islands the focal point of regional diving.

Varied and full of color, the southern islands are numbered one through nine and host a number of liveaboards that launch from the western Thai coast. These numerous islands are balanced by the large northern islands of **Ko Bon**, a beautiful piece of limestone, and **Ko Tachai**, which has attractive sand beaches and some good offshore dives.

Since the tsunami, the eastern coasts have been the favored aspect of these islands to dive. The terrain features stunning hard corals, soft corals, sea fans and immense coral heads, and they range from shallow to quite deep, and from no currents to pretty brisk ones. An extremely photogenic place, this is where many of the signature Thailand

diving images are made, especially those with wide angle vistas and big gorgonian sea fans.

Fish are also well-represented, with anything from mantas and leopard sharks to ornate ghost pipefish, blue spotted jawfish, Andaman sweet lips and nudibranchs to be found.

<i>Similan Islands</i>		GOOD SNORKELING	NOVICE	INTERMEDIATE	ADVANCED
27	CORAL GARDENS	•	•		
28	BOULDER CITY	•		•	
29	SHARK FIN REEF (HIN PAE)	•		•	
30	EAST OF EDEN			•	•
31	WEST OF SWEDEN	•		•	
32	ELEPHANT'S HEAD (HIN PUSAR)	•		•	
33	BEACON POINT	•		•	
34	BEACON BEACH	•	•		
35	TURTLE ROCK			•	
36	SNAPPER ALLEY	•		•	
37	BOMMIES	•		•	
38	SONGRAKI REEF			•	
39	THE PINNACLE				
40	KO BON			•	
41	KO BON PINNACLE				•
42	KO TACHAI			•	