



Frequently Asked Questions about our **Discover Scuba Program**



When do you conduct Discover Scuba's, and how to I arrange an appointment?

Generally times are 6:30pm-9:30pm on a weeknight. The facilities and evenings available vary month to month, so call the shop at 215-256-6000 Monday-Friday 10am-8pm, or Saturdays 10am-5pm to discuss available locations and times and to make an appointment.

What happens during a Discover Scuba Experience?

We conduct our programs weekly in a heated indoor pool at one of our local training facilities. You'll arrive at your scheduled time and sign in at the front desk, where you'll be directed to your classroom. Our professional instructors will have you fill out paperwork, present a short video, review key safety points and answer any questions you have. You'll then be directed to the lockers where you'll change into swimwear and go out to the pool deck. There, your instructor will get you fitted for scuba gear, help you assemble the gear, and show you how to use it. Working at a pace you are comfortable with, you'll spend the next hour breathing, swimming, and having fun underwater.

Will I be certified to dive after taking this class?

No, the Discover Scuba experience is meant to introduce you to the sport of scuba diving and perhaps help you determine whether it's a sport you care to pursue. If you decide to move forward with a certified diver program, your Discover Scuba experience will be very helpful, but you will still need to fully participate in our Open Water Plus program to earn your scuba certification.

What do I need to bring?

We provide mask, fins, snorkel, scuba gear, and scuba tanks. You'll need to bring a towel, bathing suit, and an adventurous attitude. You'll also need to show your instructor your gift certificate, receipt or the verification code that you received at the time of your payment.

Do you provide wetsuits?

No. The pools we use are heated, so the water temperature will be around 83°. Some customers feel more comfortable in a wetsuit, which we can provide for a small additional charge. Call the shop for more details or to schedule a fitting prior to your appointment.

What kind of forms will I be filling out?

The Discover Scuba Participant Registration Form consists of a statement of safe diving practices, a liability release form, and a model release form. In addition, there is a medical questionnaire to complete (see below.)

What is the Medical Questionnaire all about?

Scuba diving is an exciting and demanding activity. To scuba dive you must not be extremely overweight or out of condition. Diving can be strenuous under certain conditions. Your respiratory and circulatory systems must be in good health. All body air spaces must be normal and healthy. A person with heart trouble, a current cold or congestion, epilepsy, asthma, a severe medical problem, or who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, should not dive. If taking medication, consult your doctor before participating in this program.

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The purpose of the Medical Questionnaire is to find out if you should be examined by a physician before participating in recreational scuba diving. A positive response to a question does not necessarily disqualify you from diving. A positive response means that there is a preexisting condition that may affect your safety while diving and you must seek the advice of a physician.

The medical questionnaire will ask you to write a YES or NO for each of the following questions. If you answer YES to any of the following questions, please contact the shop at 215-256-6000 before you schedule or attend a DSD.

- Do you currently have an ear infection?
- Do you have a history of ear disease, hearing loss or problems with balance?
- Do you have a history of ear or sinus surgery?
- Are you currently suffering from a cold, congestion, sinusitis or bronchitis?
- Do you have a history of respiratory problems, severe attacks of hayfever or allergies, or lung disease?
- Have you had a collapsed lung (pneumothorax) or history of chest surgery?
- Do you have active asthma or history of emphysema or tuberculosis?
- Are you currently taking medication that carries a warning about any impairment of your physical or mental abilities?
- Do you have behavioral health, mental or psychological problems or a nervous system disorder?
- Are you or could you be pregnant?
- Do you have a history of colostomy?
- Do you have a history of heart disease or heart attack, heart surgery or blood vessel surgery?
- Do you have a history of high blood pressure, angina, or take medication to control blood pressure?
- Are you over 45 and have a family history of heart attack or stroke?
- Do you have a history of bleeding or other blood disorders?
- Do you have a history of diabetes?
- Do you have a history of seizures, blackouts or fainting, convulsions or epilepsy or take medications to prevent them?
- Do you have a history of back, arm or leg problems following an injury, fracture or surgery?
- Do you have a history of fear of closed or open spaces or panic attacks (claustrophobia or agoraphobia)?