

Life Aboard Ship – Things to Know and Bring

** Items marked with an asterisk are required*

Documents:

- *Passport
- *Drivers License, green cards, other ID's, etc
- *Copies of dive certifications (Letter of Reciprocity, NOAA or AAUS certifications)
- *Copies of Immunization Records (TB clearance)
- *NOAA IT Security Awareness Training Certificate

Clothes: In general clothes should be moderately conservative, i.e. no tank tops or hats in the galley and full coverage bathing suits in the field. Also, there are laundry facilities and detergent available on the ship, but they can rust-stain clothes occasionally; so do not bring anything valuable.

- *Close-toed shoes are required on all weather decks and in small boats (must have heel strap; Keens are OK). At this time slippers/sandals are OK for most inside areas on the ship (except in the Mess at meal times), but this rule changes from time to time depending on the ship's Command and current Standing Orders on Footwear. Just be prepared to wear close-toed shoes in all areas of the ship and you'll be fine.)
- Brimmed hat or baseball cap
- Warm clothes (sweatshirts, sweatpants, hat, thick socks, etc.) The ship is kept fairly cool inside; and the Wet Lab -- where some work stations are located -- is kept very cold.
- Bathing suits (no bikinis or Speedos are allowed unless worn under a wetsuit or shorts/rashguard at all times)
- Surf shorts, t-shirts and rashguards (for the field)
- Foul weather gear

Ditch Bag Items: Clothes required for the abandon ship drills. (Can be part of everyday wardrobe or stored separately in a small bag.)

- *Brimmed hat
- *Long sleeve shirt
- *Long pants

Diving: (Additional information is included in CRED Dive Guidelines.)

- *All Dive Gear (BCD, Regulators, Mask, Snorkel, and Fins)
- *Dive Knife – either strapped to your leg or otherwise accessible by both hands; it doesn't have to be big.
- *Weight Belt (IMPORTANT: If you are flying in and need weights to be provided, please let us know the amount ASAP. Note: This needs to be prior to ship loading in Honolulu!)
- *Dive Gear Bag – for ease of loading/offloading dive gear to/from the small boat at the ship's rail. (Hint: An overly large dive bag will just get in your way while aboard the small boat.)
- *Safety sausages and whistles are required. If you have underwater or surface signaling devices, please bring those as well.
- *Dive Computer

- *Spares – Bring your own personal "save-a-dive" kit (extra mouthpieces, mask/fin straps, BC clips, etc.). CRED carries limited spare parts.
- Wetsuit (Although water temperatures may be in the low 80s, it is recommended that divers bring a wetsuit or dive skin to protect against sun exposure and marine life.)
- Hood/gloves/booties (if you use them)
- Dry bag – useful as everything in the small boats will get wet. (Note: There's not much room for large pelican cases and such.)

Other Essentials:

- *Prescription or special Medications (ship has a Physician's Assistant as well as most common medications and first aid)
- Sunglasses (Polarized are best for being on the water, and bring at least one spare.)
- Sunscreen (SPF 30+)
- Water bottle(s)
- Laptop computer **with administrative rights** (and other office needs: flash drive, field notebook.) NOAA IT Security policies will apply such that non-NOAA computers will have to be cleared by the ship's Electronics Technician prior to connecting to the ship's network.
- Ethernet cable >5ft (if you would like to link a laptop to ship's network)
- Any desired Reference Materials

Additional Recommended Items:

- Flashlight or headlamp – Can be handy for reading or getting up in the dark without bothering roommates.
- Drinking cup/mug – Highly recommended. The Chief Steward does not allow cups to leave the Mess, so if you want to drink anywhere else on the ship, you'll need your own (or you can buy one in the ship's store).
- Camera (underwater housing?)
- Spending cash or check book for the ship's store (t-shirts, candy, sundries, etc.)
- Yoga mat and/or workout clothes (Ship has a small gym)
- Toiletries sufficient for length of stay. If you like a particular soap and/or toiletries, bring them along. The ship will provide bars of soap, but no shampoo. The ship also provides linens and a towel, but if you want additional towels (e.g. for in the field), you'll need to bring that.
- Movies/Music (There is a movie room where DVDs can be shown. The ship has a very large inventory of movies.)
- Convenient user-friendly cleaning supplies for your personal areas and personal health (eg. Bleach wipes, hand sanitizer)

Helpful Information:

Communication:

The ship does have Internet access, but it can be inconsistent. All government rules apply to the use of the Internet while aboard. The ship does not allow Skype, IM, streaming video or anything else that consumes large amounts of bandwidth. Very large files cannot be downloaded or sent without prior permission and may incur charges. Personal laptops may be hooked up to the network in accordance with NOAA IT Security requirements. (You need to have

administrative privileges on your laptop.) There is a satellite phone which may be used, but is limited to short calls and infrequent occasions (e.g. business and emergency) with permission. This will all be explained in detail during the ship orientation meeting once you are aboard.

Food:

Meals are served three times a day. If you have special dietary restrictions (vegetarian, etc.) or have food allergies, please let your Team Lead know as soon as possible so we can alert the ship.

Accommodations:

Scientists are housed in 2-4 person staterooms. Bathrooms with showers and toilets are shared between adjoining rooms. The ship provides a bath towel, a pillow and sheets/blankets. There is limited storage, especially in the rooms, so please try to pack in collapsible duffle bags as opposed to rigid suitcases. For ease of storage, when practical please use a bag versus an action packer or similar when packing dive gear, personal office supplies and other equipment. Most rooms are equipped with a single desk, and there is additional desk space for scientists in the dry lab.