

Alex's trip report to Marsa Shagra!

My Dad and I travelled to Marsa Shagra Eco-lodges on the 10th of August, the day of the Airport Security clamp down. Gatwick was chaos, flights cancelled, no hand baggage (PSP or Ipod) and security even took my dads glasses case off him. Despite all this we were only delayed by 3 hours, luckier than most folk in Gatwick that day.

At Marsa Shagra we started with a check dive and then were doing 3 or 4 dives per day, but we both missed out a day with Egypt-tummy. Diving at Marsa Shagra was great, we dived around the house reef most of the time, and it was a really nice house reef with a wide range of fish and really nice coral.

We saw all sorts on the house reef, Black tip reef sharks, spinner dolphins, turtles, octopus, blue spotted rays, and loads of smaller reef fish. At Shagra I completed my advanced course with my deep dive to 21m and my peak performance buoyancy, I really enjoyed both courses and I felt I especially got a lot out of the peak performance buoyancy. The instructor who led me through my course was great just like the rest of the staff and dive team at the Eco-lodge.

My dad went off and dived Elphinstone and a couple of other dives which I didn't do for various reasons. Another good thing about the house reef was that they had a couple of ribs dropping you off at further parts around the reef if that's what you wanted.

The atmosphere at Shagra is very relaxed and you have the freedom to dive whenever you want to. Everyone is very sociable and friendly, even the Germans. We travelled back on the 17th having had 6 days of great diving.

It was a really great week and would definitely recommend it, especially for young and novice divers like myself.

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