



## Earth Immersion Scuba Equipment Requirements and Purchasing Guide

All below items should be of **dive shop quality**, not the type purchased at sporting goods stores or discount stores.

### Required items

#### Mask

- Fit is the most important. Make sure it is comfortable and seals (adheres to face when inhaled). Tusa Liberator and XS Scuba Metro masks fit most.
- Masks with nose purge are discouraged.
- Color is not super important, but we at EI dive masks with black skirts. It aids in light signal recognition when diving with lights.
- *Optional: Neoprene mask straps may make masks more comfortable for individuals with long hair.*

#### Snorkel

- Simple ones with bottom purge are what we recommend
- Dry snorkels are not our favorite. In our experience they break and cost more.
- *Optional: Neoprene snorkel keeper may make snorkels more comfortable for individuals with long hair.*

#### Fins

- Open heeled fins are preferred.
- Simple, single blade fin with no fancy gimmicks are suggested. Gimmicks just break and may not be suitable for all kicks. In addition, gimmicks cost more money.
- If thinking of going into Cave/Technical diving in the future, we suggest a stiffer bladed fin like the Dive Rite Fin, Mares Quattro, or OMS Slip Stream. Better to buy fins only once.

#### Booties

- The fins are placed over these and are worn when walking around pre- and post-dive.
- High top over low cut style is suggested as it provides better heel protection and warmth.
- For warm water diving (Florida), thickness is not important. 3mm is most common and cheapest.

#### Wetsuit

- We recommend a 5 mm full wetsuit for most people. A 3 mm full wetsuit may be sufficient for those who do not get cold easy, but a hood is recommended for use in conjunction with this suit. Another option is a 3 mm suit layered with a 2-3 mm shorty wetsuit.
- Wetsuit needs to fit snug, but not cut off blood circulation. Purpose is to keep thin layer of warm water near body and reduce cooler water moving in.
- Regardless of suit thickness make sure it fits. Do not buy one that the camper will "grow into". They will get chilled and will be uncomfortable if it does not fit well.

#### Hood (optional)

- Much of our heat is lost through our heads so a hood helps to maintain body heat.
- It should fit snug like a wetsuit and 3mm or 5mm thickness will be fine.
- Highly suggested if a 3mm full wetsuit is used.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions for purchasing advice. If you already have some stuff and question whether it will work or not, give us a call.